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LAWS OF CONGRESS
GOVERNING THE
POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT
AND THE
POSTAL SERVICE

COMPILED IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF

R. P. GOODWIN

Assistant Attorney-General for the Post-Office Department

Published by direction of
The Joint Commission of Congress

WASHINGTON
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1907

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U.S. Senate, etc., etc., etc.

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Joint Commission of Congress
On Business Methods of Post-Office Department and Postal Service.

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The Congress shall have power * * * to establish post-offices and post-roads.

Post-offices and post-roads.

Constitution, art. 1, § 8.

If any informer or plaintiff on a penal statute, to whom the penalty or any part thereof, if recovered, is directed to accrue, discontinues his suit or prosecution, or is nonsuited therein, or if upon trial judgment is rendered in favor of the defendant, the court shall award to the defendant his costs, unless such informer or plaintiff is an officer of the United States specially authorized to commence such prosecution, and the court, at the trial in open court, certifies upon the record that there was reasonable cause for commencing the same; in which case no costs shall be adjudged to the defendant.

Liability of informer in action on penal statute.
—for costs on failure of suit, etc., except.
R. S. § 975.

Approved May 8, 1792.

If any informer on a penal statute, to whom the penalty or any part thereof, if recovered, is directed to accrue, discontinues his suit or prosecution, or is nonsuited therein, or if upon trial judgment is rendered in favor of the defendant, such informer shall be alone liable to the clerk, marshal, and attorney for the fees of such prosecution, unless he is an officer of the United States whose duty it is to commence such prosecution, and the court certifies that there was reasonable cause for commencing the same; in which case the United States shall be responsible for such fees.

Liability of informer in action on penal statute.
—for fees of officers on failure of suit, except.
R. S., § 976.

Approved February 28, 1799.

* * * All postmasters and persons employed in the transportation of the mail (and) all ferrymen employed at any ferry on post-roads * * * shall be exempted from militia duty.

Postmasters and certain other employees exempt from militia duty.

Approved April 30, 1810.

R. S., § 1629.

All claims and demands whatever by the United States or against them, and all accounts whatever in which the United States are concerned, either as debtors or creditors, shall be settled and adjusted in the Department of the Treasury.

Settlement of accounts.
R. S., § 236.
—by or against the United States.
—in Treasury Department.

Approved March 3, 1817.

No advance of public money shall be made in any case whatever. And in all cases of contracts for the performance of any service, or the delivery of articles of any description, for the use of the United States, payment shall not exceed the value of the service rendered, or of the articles delivered previously to such payment. It shall, however, be lawful, under the special direction of the President, to make such advances to the disbursing officers of the Government as may be necessary to the faithful and prompt discharge of their respective duties, and to the fulfillment of the public engagements. * * *

Payments not to be made in advance.
R. S., § 3648.

—nor to exceed value of articles, etc.

Advances may be made to disbursing officers, when.

Approved January 31, 1823.

Officers, etc., in arrears. R. S., § 1766. No money shall be paid to any person for his compensation who is in arrears to the United States, until he has accounted for and paid into the Treasury all sums for which he may be liable. In all cases where the pay or salary of any person is withheld in pursuance of this section, the accounting officers of the Treasury, if required to do so by the party, his agent or attorney, shall report forthwith to the Solicitor of the Treasury the balance due; and the Solicitor shall, within sixty days thereafter, order suit to be commenced against such delinquent and his sureties.

Approved May 20, 1836.

Returns of marshal to Auditor of proceedings on executions. R. S., § 792. Every marshal to whom any execution upon a judgment in any suit for moneys due on account of the Post-Office Department has been directed, shall make returns to the Sixth Auditor, at such times as he may direct, of the proceedings which have taken place upon the said process of execution.

Approved July 2, 1836.

When claims to be allowed in suits. R. S., § 952. No claim for a credit shall be allowed upon the trial of any suit for delinquency against a postmaster, contractor, or other officer, agent, or employee of the Post-Office Department, unless the same has been presented to the Sixth Auditor, and by him disallowed, in whole or in part, or unless it is proved to the satisfaction of the court that the defendant is, at the time of trial, in possession of vouchers not before in his power to procure, and that he was prevented from exhibiting to the said Auditor a claim for such credit by some unavoidable accident.

Approved July 2, 1836.

Judgment in postal suits. R. S., § 958. In suits arising under the postal laws the court shall proceed to trial, and render judgment at the return term; but whenever service of process is not made at least twenty days before the return day of such term, the defendant is entitled to one continuance, if, on his statement, the court deems it expedient; and if he makes affidavit that he has a claim against the Post-Office Department, which has been submitted to and disallowed by the Sixth Auditor, specifying such claim in his affidavit, and that he could not be prepared for trial at such term for want of evidence, the court, if satisfied thereof, may grant a continuance until the next term.

Approved July 2, 1836.

Interest on balances. R. S., § 964. In all suits for balances due to the Post-Office Department, interest thereon shall be recovered, from the time of the default, at the rate of six per centum a year.

Approved July 2, 1836.

Accessory to stealing mail matter. R. S., § 5535. Every accessory after the fact to the offense of stealing or taking any letter, or other mail matter, or any inclosure therein, shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars, and be imprisoned not more than five years.

Approved July 2, 1836.

Preliminary proceedings. R. S., § 1014. For any crime or offense against the United States, the offender may, by any justice or judge of the United States, or by any commissioner of a circuit court to take bail, or by any chancellor, before whom

judge of a supreme or superior court, chief or first judge of common pleas, mayor of a city, justice of the peace, or other magistrate, of any State where he may be found, and agreeably to the usual mode of process against offenders in such State, and at the expense of the United States, be arrested and imprisoned, or bailed, as the case may be, for trial before such court of the United States as by law has cognizance of the offense. Copies of the process shall be returned as speedily as may be into the clerk's office of such court, together with the recognizances of the witnesses for their appearance to testify in the case. And where any offender or witness is committed in any district other than that where the offense is to be tried, it shall be the duty of the judge of the district where such offender or witness is imprisoned, seasonably to issue, and of the marshal to execute, a warrant for his removal to the district where the trial is to be had.

Removals.

Approved August 22, 1842.

No officer in any branch of the public service, or any other person whose salary, pay, or emoluments are fixed by law or regulations, shall receive any additional pay, extra allowance, or compensation, in any form whatever, for the disbursement of public money, or for any other service or duty whatever, unless the same is authorized by law, and the appropriation therefor explicitly states that it is for such additional pay, extra allowance, or compensation.

Extra compensation forbidden.
—for disbursements and extra services.
R. S., § 1765.
—unless.

Approved August 23, 1842.

The head of each Department shall make an annual report to Congress, giving a detailed statement of the manner in which the contingent fund for his Department, and for the bureaus and offices therein, has been expended, giving the names of every person to whom any portion thereof has been paid; and if for anything furnished, the quantity and price; and if for any service rendered, the nature of such service, and the time employed, and the particular occasion or cause, in brief, that rendered such service necessary; and the amount of all former appropriations in each case on hand, either in the Treasury or in the hands of any disbursing officer or agent. And he shall require of the disbursing officers, acting under his direction and authority, the return of precise and analytical statements and receipts for all the moneys which may have been from time to time during the next preceding year expended by them, and shall communicate the results of such returns and the sums total, annually, to Congress.

Report of contingent fund.
R. S., § 193.
See 1874,
June 20, ch.
328, 18 St. L.,
96.
—expenditures therefrom to be given in detail.

Former appropriations.

Disbursing officers to return statements of next preceding year.

Approved August 26, 1842.

No allowance or compensation shall be made to any officer or clerk, by reason of the discharge of duties which belong to any other officer or clerk in the same or any other Department; and no allowance or compensation shall be made for any extra services whatever, which any officer or clerk may be required to perform, unless expressly authorized by law.

Extra compensation.
—as acting officer forbidden.
R. S., § 1764.
—for extra services forbidden, unless.

Approved August 26, 1842.

The heads of Departments, in communicating estimates of expenditures and appropriations to Congress, or to any of the committees thereof, shall specify, as nearly as may be convenient,

Manner of communicating estimates.
R. S., § 3660.

the sources from which such estimates are derived and the calculations upon which they are founded, and shall discriminate between such estimates as are conjectural in their character and such as are framed upon actual information and applications from disbursing officers. They shall also give references to any law or treaty by which the proposed expenditures are, respectively, authorized, specifying the date of each and the volume and page of the Statutes at Large, or of the Revised Statutes, as the case may be, and the section of the act in which the authority is to be found.

Approved August 26, 1842.

Contingent fund.

—written or—
—der for expend-
—itures from.

R. S., § 3683.

No part of the contingent fund appropriated to any Department, Bureau, or office shall be applied to the purchase of any articles except such as the head of the Department shall deem necessary and proper to carry on the business of the Department, Bureau, or office, and shall, by written order, direct to be procured.

Approved August 26, 1842.

Jurisdiction,
district courts

—suits under
postal laws.

R. S., § 563.

The district courts (of the United States) shall have jurisdiction as follows:

Seventh. Of all causes of action arising under the postal laws of the United States.

Approved March 3, 1845.

Jurisdiction,
circuit courts

—suits under
postal laws.

R. S., § 629.

The circuit courts (of the United States) shall have original jurisdiction as follows: * * *

Fourth. * * * of all causes arising under the postal laws.

Approved March 3, 1845.

Keeping of
accounts by de-
positaries.

R. S., § 3642.

Every depositary shall keep his account of the money paid to or deposited with him belonging to the Post-Office Department separate and distinct from the account kept by him of other public moneys so paid or deposited.

Approved August 6, 1846.

Depositaries
to make re-
turns of de-
posits and pay-
ments.

R. S., § 3644.

—Postmaster-
General to pre-
scribe time and
form.

* * * Each depositary * * * shall make returns to the * * * Post-Office Department of all moneys received and paid by him, at such times and in such forms as shall be directed by the * * * Postmaster-General.

Approved August 6, 1846.

Loaning, us-
ing, or unau-
thorized de-
posit of public
moneys.

R. S., § 5490.

—penalty.

Every officer or other person charged by any act of Congress with the safe-keeping of the public moneys, who fails to safely keep the same, without loaning, using, converting to his own use, depositing in banks, or exchanging for other funds than as specially allowed by law, shall be guilty of embezzlement of the money so loaned, used, converted, deposited, or exchanged; and shall be imprisoned not less than six months nor more than ten years, and fined in a sum equal to the amount of money so embezzled.

Approved August 6, 1846.

No person who holds an office, the salary or annual compensation attached to which amounts to the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars, shall receive compensation for discharging the duties of any other office, unless expressly authorized by law.

Approved August 31, 1852.

Double salaries.
R. S., § 1763.

Every officer of the United States, or person holding any place of trust or profit, or discharging any official function under, or in connection with, any Executive Department of the Government of the United States, or under the Senate or House of Representatives of the United States, who acts as an agent or attorney for prosecuting any claim against the United States, or in any manner or by any means, otherwise than in discharge of his proper official duties, aids or assists in the prosecution or support of any such claim, or receives any gratuity, or any share of or interest in any claim from any claimant against the United States, with intent to aid or assist, or in consideration of having aided or assisted, in the prosecution of such claim, shall pay a fine of not more than five thousand dollars, or suffer imprisonment not more than one year, or both.

Officers, etc., acting as agent for, or assisting or aiding in, prosecution of claims.
R. S., § 5498.

Approved February 26, 1853.

The clerks in the Departments shall be arranged in four classes, distinguished as the first, second, third, and fourth classes.

Approved March 3, 1853.

Classification of clerks.
R. S., § 163.

Each head of a Department may from time to time alter the distribution among the various Bureaus and offices of his Department of the clerks allowed by law, as he may find it necessary and proper to do.

Approved March 3, 1853.

Clerks, distribution of, may be altered.
R. S., § 166.

Every officer charged with the payment of any of the appropriations made by any act of Congress, who pays to any clerk, or other employee of the United States, a sum less than that provided by law, and requires such employee to receipt or give a voucher for an amount greater than that actually paid to and received by him, is guilty of embezzlement, and shall be fined in double the amount so withheld from any employee of the Government, and shall be imprisoned at hard labor for the term of two years.

Approved March 3, 1853.

False vouchers and receipts.
R. S., § 5483.

—penalty for filing, in case of smaller payments than given.

In all cases in which, under the laws of the United States, oaths or acknowledgments may now be taken or made before any justice of the peace of any State or Territory, or in the District of Columbia, they may hereafter be also taken or made by or before any notary public duly appointed in any State, District, or Territory, or any of the commissioners of the circuit courts, and, when certified under the hand and official seal of such notary or commissioner, shall have the same force and effect as if taken or made by or before such justice of the peace.

Approved July 29, 1854.

Oaths, before whom taken.
R. S., § 1778.

Bonds given
by disbursing
officers.

R. S., § 3614.

Whenever it becomes necessary for the head of any Department or office to employ special agents, other than officers of the Army or Navy, who may be charged with the disbursements of public moneys, such agents shall, before entering upon duty, give bond in such form and with such security as the head of the Department or office employing them may approve.

Approved August 4, 1854.

Estimates for compensation,
authority.

R. S., § 3662.

All estimates for the compensation of officers authorized by law to be employed shall be founded upon the express provisions of law and not upon the authority of executive distribution.

Approved March 3, 1855.

Estimates for new items,
etc., explanations
required.

R. S., § 3664.

Whenever the head of a Department, being about to submit to Congress the annual estimates of expenditures required for the coming year, finds that the usual items of such estimates vary materially in amount from the appropriation ordinarily asked for the object named, and especially from the appropriation granted for the same objects for the preceding year, and whenever new items not theretofore usual are introduced into such estimates for any year, he shall accompany the estimates by minute and full explanations of all such variations and new items, showing the reasons and grounds upon which the amounts are required and the different items added.

Approved March 3, 1855.

Failure to deposit with
proper depository.

R. S., § 5492.

—penalty.

Every person who, having moneys of the United States in his hands or possession, fails to make deposit of the same with the Treasurer, or some assistant treasurer, or some public depository of the United States, when required so to do by the Secretary of the Treasury, or the head of any other proper Department, or by the accounting officers of the Treasury, shall be deemed guilty of embezzlement thereof, and shall be imprisoned not less than six months nor more than ten years, and fined in a sum equal to the amount of money embezzled. (See R. S. § 4053.)

Approved March 3, 1857.

Appropriations outstanding,
amount of, to be designated.

R. S., § 3665.

The head of each Department, in submitting to Congress his estimates of expenditures required in his Department during the year then approaching, shall designate not only the amount required to be appropriated for the next fiscal year, but also the amount of the outstanding appropriation, if there be any, which will probably be required for each particular item of expenditure.

Approved June 2, 1858.

Contracts not to be made
unless authorized
by law.

R. S., § 3732.

No contract or purchase on behalf of the United States shall be made unless the same is authorized by law or is under an appropriation adequate to its fulfillment, * * *

Approved March 2, 1861.

Who may administer
oath.

—general.
R. S., § 1758.

The oath of office required by either of the two preceding sections (R. S. §§ 1756 and 1757) * * * (see act of May 13, 1884) may be taken before any officer who is authorized either

by the laws of the United States or by the local municipal law to administer oaths in the State, Territory, or District where such oath may be administered.

Approved August 6, 1861.

The grants aforesaid (to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean), are made upon the condition that said company shall * * * transport mails * * * upon said railroad for the Government, whenever required to do so by any Department thereof, and that the Government shall at all times have the preference in the use of the same for all the purposes aforesaid (at fair and reasonable rates of compensation, not to exceed the amounts paid by private parties for the same kind of service).
* * *

Approved July 1, 1862.

One copy of (each of the annual reports required by law to be made to the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, by such colleges as are or may hereafter be established for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts in the several States and Territories under the provisions of the act of July 2, 1862, entitled "An act donating public lands to the several States and Territories which may provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts," and the acts amendatory thereof) * * * shall be transmitted by mail free, by each, to all the other colleges which may be endowed under the provisions of this act (of July 2, 1862), and also one copy to the Secretary of the Interior (and the Secretary of Agriculture).

Approved July 2, 1862.

No contract or order, or any interest therein, shall be transferred by the party to whom such contract or order is given to any other party, and any such transfer shall cause the annulment of the contract or order transferred, so far as the United States are concerned. All rights of action, however, for any breach of such contract by the contracting parties, are reserved to the United States.

Approved July 17, 1862.

Every member of Congress or any officer or agent of the Government who, directly or indirectly, takes, receives, or agrees to receive, any money, property, or other valuable consideration whatever, from any person for procuring, or aiding to procure, any contract, office, or place, from the Government or any department thereof, or from any officer of the United States, for any person whatever, or for giving any such contract, office, or place to any person whomsoever, and every person who, directly or indirectly, offers or agrees to give, or gives, or bestows any money, property, or other valuable consideration whatever, for the procuring or aiding to procure any such contract, office, or place, and every member of Congress who, directly or indirectly, takes, receives, or agrees to receive any money, property, or other valuable consideration whatever after his election as such member,

Rates of compensation for mail transportation on Pacific railroads.
1862, July 1, ch. 120, 12 St. L., 493.
—how determined.

Reports of certain agricultural colleges, etc.
1862, July 2, ch. 130, § 5, 12 St. L., 503.
1890, Aug. 30, ch. 841, § 3, 1 Supp., 799.
See 1866, July 23, ch. 209, 14 St. L., 208.
—free when transmitted to other such colleges, etc.

Contracts not assignable.
R. S., § 3737.
—if assigned, causes annulment.
—right of action reserved.

Procuring office or contract for consideration.
R. S., § 1871.
Making compensation to officer for contract or office, etc.

for his attention to, services, action, vote, or decision on any question, matter, cause, or proceeding which may then be pending, or may by law or under the Constitution be brought before him in his official capacity, or in his place as such member of Congress, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be imprisoned not more than two years and fined not more than ten thousand

—penalty.

Contracts unlawfully procured may be annulled, etc.

dollars. And any such contract or agreement may, at the option of the President, be declared absolutely null and void; and any member of Congress or officer convicted of a violation of this section, shall, moreover, be disqualified from holding any office of honor, profit, or trust under the Government of the United States.

Approved February 25, 1863.

Exchange of funds in hands of disbursing agents.

R. S., § 3651.
—forbidden, except.

No exchange of funds shall be made by any disbursing officer or agent of the Government, of any grade or denomination whatsoever, or connected with any branch of the public service, other than an exchange for gold, silver, United States notes, and national-bank notes; and every such disbursing officer, when the means for his disbursements are furnished to him in gold, silver,

Payments.

United States notes, or national-bank notes, shall make his payments in the moneys so furnished; or when they are furnished to him in drafts, shall cause those drafts to be presented at their place of payment, and properly paid according to law, and shall make his payments in the money so received for the drafts furnished, unless, in either case, he can exchange the means in his hands for gold and silver at par. * * *

Drafts.
—to be collected.

Approved June 3, 1864.

Officers, etc., receiving compensation for matters in which United States is interested.

R. S., § 1782.

No Senator, Representative, or Delegate, after his election and during his continuance in office, and no head of a Department, or other officer or clerk in the employ of the Government, shall receive or agree to receive any compensation whatever, directly or indirectly, for any services rendered, or to be rendered, to any person, either by himself or another, in relation to any proceeding, contract, claim, controversy, charge, accusation, arrest, or other matter or thing in which the United States is a party, or directly or indirectly interested, before any Department, court-martial, Bureau, officer, or any civil, military, or naval commission whatever. Every person offending against this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be imprisoned not more than two years, and fined not more than ten thousand dollars, and shall, moreover, by conviction therefor, be rendered forever thereafter incapable of holding any office of honor, trust, or profit under the Government of the United States.

—penalty.

Approved June 11, 1864.

Warrant of attachment in postal suits.

R. S., § 924.

In all cases where debts are due from defaulting or delinquent postmasters, contractors, or other officers, agents, or employees of the Post-Office Department, a warrant of attachment may issue against all real and personal property and legal and equitable rights belonging to such officer, agent, or employee, and his sureties, or either of them, in the following cases:

—may issue where parties are nonresidents.

First. When such officer, agent, or employee, and his sureties, or either of them, is a nonresident of the district where such officer, agent, or employee was appointed, or has departed from such

district for the purpose of permanently residing out of the same, or of defrauding the United States, or of avoiding the service of civil process.

Second. When such officer, agent, or employee, and his sureties, or either of them, has conveyed away or is about to convey away his property, or any part thereof, or has removed or is about to remove the same or any part thereof from the district wherein it is situate, with intent to defraud the United States.

And when any such property has been removed, certified copies of the warrant may be sent to the marshal of the district into which the same has been removed, under which certified copies he may seize said property and convey it to some convenient point within the jurisdiction of the court from which the warrant originally issued. And alias warrants may be issued in such cases upon due application, and the validity of the warrant first issued shall continue until the return day thereof.

Approved February 23, 1865.

Application for such warrant of attachment may be made by any district or assistant district attorney, or any other person authorized by the Postmaster-General, before the judge, or, in his absence, before the clerk of any court of the United States having original jurisdiction of the cause of action. And such application shall be made upon an affidavit of the applicant, or of some other credible person, stating the existence of either of the grounds of attachment enumerated in the preceding section, and upon production of legal evidence of the debt.

Approved February 23, 1865.

Persons honorably discharged from the military and naval service by reason of disability resulting from wounds or sickness incurred in the line of duty shall be preferred for appointments to civil offices, provided they are found to possess the business capacity necessary for the proper discharge of the duties of such offices.

Approved March 3, 1865.

No portrait shall be placed upon any of the bonds, securities, notes, fractional or postal currency of the United States while the original of such portrait is living.

Approved April 7, 1866.

Every banker, broker, or other person not an authorized depository of public moneys, who knowingly receives from any disbursing officer, or collector of internal revenue, or other agent of the United States, any public money on deposit, or by way of loan or accommodation, with or without interest, or otherwise than in payment of a debt against the United States, or who uses, transfers, converts, appropriates, or applies any portion of the public money for any purpose not prescribed by law, and every president, cashier, teller, director, or other officer of any bank or banking association, who violates any of the provisions of this section, is guilty of an act of embezzlement of the public money so deposited,

—where property is to be removed.

—where property has been removed, how executed.

Application for warrant of attachment.
R. S., § 925.
—to whom, and by whom to be made.

—affidavit in support of.

Soldiers and sailors.
R. S., § 1754.
—preferred for appointment, when.

Portraits on postal currency, etc.
—restrictions.
R. S., § 3576.

Acceptance of unlawful deposits by bankers, etc.
R. S., § 5497.

—penalty.

loaned, transferred, used, converted, appropriated, or applied, and shall be punished as prescribed in section fifty-four hundred and eighty-eight (of the Revised Statutes).

Approved June 14, 1866.

Companies accepting privileges to file acceptances with Postmaster-General.

R. S., § 5268.

Before any telegraph company shall exercise any of the powers or privileges conferred by law, such company shall file their written acceptance with the Postmaster-General of the restrictions and obligations required by law. (See R. S. §§ 5263-5267.)

Approved July 24, 1866.

Advertisements, etc., in likeness of obligations of the United States.

R. S., § 3708.

It shall not be lawful to design, engrave, print, or in any manner make or execute, or to utter, issue, distribute, circulate, or use, any business or professional card, notice, placard, circular, handbill, or advertisement, in the likeness or similitude of any bond, certificate of indebtedness, certificate of deposit, coupon, United States note, Treasury note, fractional note, or other obligation or security of the United States, which has been or may be issued under or authorized by any act of Congress heretofore passed or which may hereafter be passed; or to write, print, or otherwise impress upon any such instrument, obligation, or security, any business or professional card, notice, or advertisement, or any notice or advertisement of any matter or thing whatever. Any person violating this section shall be liable to a penalty of one hundred dollars, recoverable one-half to the use of the informer.

—penalty for issue of.

Approved February 5, 1867.

All parties to a conspiracy equally guilty.

R. S., § 5440.

If two or more persons conspire either to commit any offense against the United States, or to defraud the United States in any manner or for any purpose, and one or more of such parties do any act to effect the object of the conspiracy, all the parties to such conspiracy shall be liable to a penalty of not less than one thousand dollars and not more than ten thousand dollars, and to imprisonment not more than two years.

Approved March 2, 1867.

Bidders to be notified of opening of bids.

R. S., § 3710.

—may be present.

Whenever proposals for supplies have been solicited, the parties responding to such solicitation shall be duly notified of the time and place of opening the bids, and be permitted to be present either in person or by attorney, and a record of each bid shall then and there be made.

Approved January 31, 1868.

Contracts not to exceed one year.

R. S., § 3735.

It shall not be lawful for any of the Executive Departments to make contracts for stationery or other supplies for a longer term than one year from the time the contract is made.

Approved January 31, 1868.

Appropriations to be expended only for objects specified.

R. S., § 3678.

See 1878, June 19, ch. 329, 1 Supp., 201; R. S., §§ 3690, 3691.

All sums appropriated for the various branches of expenditure in the public service shall be applied solely to the objects for which they are respectively made, and for no others.

Approved February 12, 1868.

The Secretary of State shall furnish the Congressional Printer with a correct copy * * * of every postal convention made between the Postmaster-General, by and with the advice and consent of the President, on the part of the United States, and equivalent officers of foreign governments on the part of their respective countries.

Approved March 9, 1868.

Copy of every postal convention to be furnished Public Printer.
R. S., § 3803.

The Postmaster-General shall transmit a copy of every postal convention to the Secretary of State for the purpose of being printed, and the printed copy thereof shall be revised by the Post-Office Department instead of by the Secretary of State.

Approved March 9, 1868.

Copy of every postal convention to be printed by Secretary of State.
R. S., § 3804.

The Congressional Printer, on receiving from the Postmaster-General a copy of any postal convention between the Postmaster-General, on the part of the United States, and an equivalent officer of any foreign government, shall immediately cause an accurate printed copy thereof to be executed and sent in duplicate to the Postmaster-General. On the return of one of the revised duplicates, he shall at once have the marked corrections made and cause to be printed and sent to the Postmaster-General any number of copies which he may order, not exceeding five hundred, and to be printed separately, and sent to the two Houses of Congress, the usual number.

Approved March 9, 1868.

Postal conventions to be printed by Public Printer.
R. S., § 3806.

All printing, binding, and blank books for the * * * Executive * * * Departments shall be done at the Government Printing Office, except in cases otherwise provided by law.

Approved July 20, 1868.

Printing and binding.
R. S., § 3786.
—to be done at Government Printing Office, except.

In case of the death, resignation, absence, or sickness of the head of any Department, the first or sole assistant thereof shall, unless otherwise directed by the President, as provided by section one hundred and seventy-nine (R. S.), perform the duties of such head until a successor is appointed, or such absence or sickness shall cease.

Approved July 23, 1868.

Acting officers.
—of Department.
R. S., § 177.

In case of the death, resignation, absence, or sickness of the chief of any Bureau, or of any officer thereof, whose appointment is not vested in the head of the Department, the assistant or deputy of such chief or of such officer, or if there be none, then the chief clerk of such Bureau, shall, unless otherwise directed by the President, as provided by section one hundred and seventy-nine (R. S.), perform the duties of such chief or of such officer until a successor is appointed or such absence or sickness shall cease.

Approved, July 23, 1868.

Acting officers of Bureaus.
R. S., § 178.

In any of the cases mentioned in the two preceding sections (R. S., §§ 177 and 178) * * * the President may, in his discretion, authorize and direct the head of any other Department or any

Acting officers may be named by President, when.
R. S., § 179.

other officer in either Department, whose appointment is vested in the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to perform the duties of the vacant office until a successor is appointed, or the sickness or absence of the incumbent shall cease.

Approved, July 23, 1868.

Extra compensation for performing duties during vacancy for-bidden.

R. S., § 182.

An officer performing the duties of another office, during a vacancy, as authorized by sections one hundred and seventy-seven, one hundred and seventy-eight, and one hundred and seventy-nine (Revised Statutes), is not by reason thereof entitled to any other compensation than that attached to his proper office.

Approved, July 23, 1868.

Copies of quarterly returns of postmasters and money-order transcripts to be admitted as evidence.

R. S., § 889.
—to be certified by Auditor.

Copies of the quarterly returns of postmasters and of any papers pertaining to the accounts in the office of the Sixth Auditor, and transcripts from the money-order account books of the Post-Office Department, when certified by the Sixth Auditor under the seal of his office, shall be admitted as evidence in the courts of the United States in civil suits and criminal prosecutions; and in any civil suit, in case of delinquency of any postmaster or contractor, a statement of the account, certified as aforesaid, shall be admitted in evidence, and the court shall be authorized thereupon to give judgment and award execution, subject to the provisions of law as to proceedings in such civil suits.

—judgment thereon.

Approved, July 27, 1868.

Certified copies of statement of demands as evidence.

R. S., § 890.
What constitutes demand.

In all suits for the recovery of balances due from postmasters, a copy, duly certified under the seal of the Sixth Auditor, of the statement of any postmaster, special agent (post-office inspector), or other person, employed by the Postmaster-General or the Auditor for that purpose, that he has mailed a letter to such delinquent postmaster at the post-office where the indebtedness accrued, or at his last usual place of abode; that a sufficient time has elapsed for said letter to have reached its destination in the ordinary course of the mail; and that payment of such balance has not been received within the time designated in his instructions, shall be received as sufficient evidence in the courts of the United States, or other courts, that a demand has been made upon the delinquent postmaster; but when the account of a late postmaster has been once adjusted and settled, and a demand has been made for the balance appearing to be due, and afterwards allowances are made or credits entered, it shall not be necessary to make a further demand for the new balance found to be due.

No demand to be made on late postmasters, when.

Approved July 27, 1868.

Oaths to witnesses in investigations.

R. S., § 183.
1901, Mar. 2,
ch. 809, § 3, 31
Stat. L., 951.
—officers and clerks may administer.

Any officer or clerk of any of the departments lawfully detailed to investigate frauds on, or attempts to defraud, the Government, or any irregularity or misconduct of any officer or agent of the United States, * * * shall have authority to administer an oath to any witness attending to testify or depose in the course of such investigation.

Resolution approved April 10, 1869.

No officer, clerk, or employee in the United States Government employ shall at any time solicit contributions from other officers, clerks, or employees in the Government service for a gift or present to those in a superior official position; nor shall any such officials or clerical superiors receive any gift or present offered or presented to them as a contribution from persons in Government employ receiving a less salary than themselves; nor shall any officer or clerk make any donation as a gift or present to any official superior. Every person who violates this section shall be summarily discharged from the Government employ. —penalty.

Approved February 1, 1870.

The postmaster to whom such copyright book, title, or other article is delivered, shall, if requested, give a receipt therefor; and when so delivered he shall mail it to its destination. Copyright article. —receipt for, when to be given. R. S., § 4961.

No Department of the Government shall expend, in any one fiscal year, any sum in excess of appropriations made by Congress for that fiscal year or involve the Government in any contract for the future payment of money in excess of such appropriation. Expenditures not to exceed appropriations. R. S., § 3679. Contracts for future payments forbidden.

NOTE.—This section yields to the special authority conferred upon the Postmaster-General to enter into contracts for carrying the mails.

Approved July 12, 1870.

No moneys appropriated for contingent, incidental, or miscellaneous purposes shall be expended or paid for official or clerical compensation. Contingent fund. —not to be expended for clerical services.

Approved July 12, 1870.

See 1875, Mar. 3, ch. 129, 18 St. L., 367. R. S., § 3682.

All balances of appropriations contained in the annual appropriation bills and made specifically for the service of any fiscal year, and remaining unexpended at the expiration of such fiscal year, shall only be applied to the payment of expenses properly incurred during that year, or to the fulfillment of contracts properly made within that year; and balances not needed for such purposes shall be carried to the surplus fund. This section, however, shall not apply to appropriations known as permanent or indefinite appropriations. Balances of appropriations. —to be used for payment of obligations incurred during year. —carried to surplus fund. R. S., § 3690.

Approved July 12, 1870.

No advertisement, notice, or proposal for any Executive Department of the Government, or for any Bureau thereof, or for any office therewith connected, shall be published in any newspaper whatever, except in pursuance of a written authority for such publication from the head of such Department; and no bill for any such advertising or publication shall be paid, unless there be presented with such bill a copy of such written authority. Advertising. R. S., § 3828. —authority for to be in writing. —bill therefor.

Approved July 15, 1870.

Failure of officer to account for money received.

R. S., § 5491.
—penalty.

Every officer or agent of the United States who, having received public money which he is not authorized to retain as salary, pay, or emolument, fails to render his accounts for the same as provided by law, shall be deemed guilty of embezzlement, and shall be fined in a sum equal to the amount of the money embezzled, and shall be imprisoned not less than six months or more than ten years.

Approved July 15, 1870.

Witnesses in claims.

R. S., § 184.
—head of Department may apply for subpoena to judge or clerk of United States court.

Any head of a Department or Bureau in which a claim against the United States is properly pending may apply to any judge or clerk of any court of the United States, in any State, District, or Territory, to issue a subpoena for a witness being within the jurisdiction of such court, to appear at a time and place in the subpoena stated, before any officer authorized to take depositions to be used in the courts of the United States, there to give full and true answers to such written interrogatories and cross-interrogatories as may be submitted with the application, or to be orally examined and cross-examined upon the subject of such claim.

Approved, February 14, 1871.

Printing or binding.
—to be done only on requisition.

R. S., § 3789.

No printing or binding shall be done, or blank books furnished, * * * for any of the Executive Departments, except on a written requisition by the head of such Department, or one of his assistants.

Approved, March 3, 1871.

Estimates for printing and binding.

R. S., § 3661.

The head of each of the Executive Departments, and every other public officer who is authorized to have printing and binding done at the Congressional Printing Office for the use of his Department or public office, shall include in his annual estimate for appropriations for the next fiscal year such sum or sums as may to him seem necessary "for printing and binding, to be executed under the direction of the Congressional Printer."

Approved, May 8, 1872.

Accounts, appeal from settlements by Auditor, may be made to Comptroller.

R. S., § 270.

Whenever the Postmaster-General or any person whose accounts have been settled by the Sixth Auditor is dissatisfied with the settlement made by the Auditor, he may, within twelve months, appeal to the First Comptroller, whose decision shall be conclusive. (See act July 31, 1894.)

Approved, June 8, 1872.

Auditor to superintend collections.

R. S., § 292.
See 1896,
Feb. 26, ch. 33,
2 Supp., 448.
—to enforce payment.

The Sixth Auditor (Auditor for the Post-Office Department) shall superintend the collection of all debts due the Post-Office Department, and all penalties and forfeitures imposed for any violation of the postal laws, and take all such other measures as may be authorized by law to enforce the payment of such debts and the recovery of such penalties and forfeitures. He shall also superintend the collection of all penalties and forfeitures arising under other statutes, where such penalties and forfeitures are the consequence of unlawful acts affecting the revenues or property of the Post-Office Department. (See act Mar. 3, 1875, ch. 130, sec. 2, and act July 31, 1894, ch. 174, sec. 3.)

Approved, June 8, 1872.

The Sixth Auditor (for the Post-Office Department) shall keep the accounts of money-order business separately, and in such manner as to show the number and amount of money orders issued at each office, the number and amount paid, the amount of fees received, and all the expenses of the money-order business.

Money-order accounts.
R. S., § 293.
—to be kept separately.
—what to show.

Approved, June 8, 1872.

The Sixth Auditor (for the Post-Office Department) shall state and certify quarterly to the Postmaster-General an account of the money paid by postmasters out of the receipts of their offices, and pursuant to appropriations, on account of the expenses of the postal service; designating the heads under which such payments were made.

Quarterly report to Postmaster-General of money disbursed by postmasters.
R. S., § 294.

Approved, June 8, 1872.

Whenever a judgment is obtained for a debt or damages due the Post-Office Department, and it satisfactorily appears that such judgment, or so much thereof as remains unpaid, can not be collected by due process of law, the Sixth Auditor may, with the written consent of the Postmaster-General, compromise such judgment, and accept in satisfaction less than the full amount thereof.

Compromise of judgments.
R. S., § 295.

Approved, June 8, 1872.

In case of delinquency of any postmaster, contractor, or other officer, agent, or employee of the Post-Office Department, in which suit is brought, the Sixth Auditor shall forward to the Department of Justice certified copies of all papers in his office tending to sustain the claim.

—Auditor may make, with consent of Postmaster-General.

Papers to be furnished Department of Justice in suits against delinquents.
R. S., § 296.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The several Auditors are empowered to administer oaths to witnesses in any case in which they may deem it necessary for the due examination of the accounts with which they shall be charged.

Oaths in settlement of accounts.
R. S., § 297.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any mayor of a city, justice of the peace, or judge of any court of record in the United States may administer oaths, in relation to the examination and settlement of the accounts committed to the charge of the Sixth Auditor.

Oaths in settlement of accounts.
—who may administer.
R. S., § 298.

Approved June 8, 1872.

In the prosecution of any suit for money due the Post-Office Department, the United States attorney conducting the same shall obey the directions which may be given him by the Department of Justice.

Instructions of Department of Justice to be obeyed in postal suits.
R. S., § 381.

Approved June 8, 1872.

When proceedings at law for money due the Post-Office Department are fruitless, the Department of Justice may direct the institution of a suit in chancery, in any United States district or circuit court, to set aside fraudulent conveyances or trusts, or attach debts due the defendant, or obtain any other proper exercise of the powers of equity to have satisfaction of any judgment against such defendant.

Proceedings in equity for money due Post-Office Department.
R. S., § 382.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Post-Office Department. There shall be at the seat of government an Executive Department, to be known as the Post-Office Department, and a Postmaster-General, who shall be the head thereof, and who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who may be removed in the same manner; and the term of the Postmaster-General shall be for and during the term of the President by whom he is appointed, and for one month thereafter, unless sooner removed.

R. S., § 388.
The Postmaster-General.

—term of office of.

Note. NOTE.—The salary of the Postmaster-General is \$8,000 a year.
Approved June 8, 1872.

Assistant Attorney-General for the Post-Office Department. There shall be employed in the Post-Office Department one Assistant Attorney-General, who shall be appointed by the Postmaster-General, and shall be entitled to a salary of four thousand dollars a year.

R. S., § 390.

Note. NOTE.—Under recent appropriation acts the Assistant Attorney-General receives a salary of \$4,500 per annum.
Approved June 8, 1872.

Oaths, before whom taken. Any officer, civil or military, holding a commission under the United States, is authorized to administer and certify the oath prescribed by the preceding section.

R. S., § 392.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Clerks and employees.
R. S., § 393.

There shall be in the Post-Office Department:

One chief clerk, at a salary of two thousand two hundred dollars a year.

One superintendent of the post-office building and disbursing clerk, at a salary of two thousand three hundred dollars a year.

One topographer, at a salary of two thousand five hundred dollars a year.

One stenographer, at a salary of one thousand eight hundred dollars a year.

One messenger to the Postmaster-General, at a salary of nine hundred dollars a year.

One captain of the watch, at a salary of one thousand dollars a year.

One engineer, at a salary of one thousand six hundred dollars a year.

One assistant engineer, at a salary of one thousand dollars a year.

One carpenter, at a salary of one thousand two hundred and fifty-two dollars a year.

One assistant carpenter, at a salary of one thousand dollars a year.

One fireman and blacksmith, at a salary of nine hundred dollars a year.

Two firemen, at a salary of seven hundred and twenty dollars a year each.

Three female laborers, at a salary of four hundred and eighty dollars a year each.

In the office of the money-order system:

One superintendent, at a salary of four thousand dollars a year.

One chief clerk, at a salary of two thousand dollars a year.

In the office of foreign mails :

One superintendent, at a salary of four thousand dollars a year.

One chief clerk, at a salary of two thousand dollars a year.

In the dead-letter office :

One chief of division, at a salary of two thousand five hundred dollars a year.

In the office of mail depredations :

One chief of division, at a salary of two thousand five hundred dollars a year.

In the office of the blank agency :

One superintendent, at a salary of one thousand eight hundred dollars a year.

One assistant superintendent, at a salary of one thousand six hundred dollars a year.

Four assistants, at a salary of one thousand two hundred dollars a year each.

In the office of each of the Assistant Postmasters-General :

One chief clerk, at a salary of two thousand dollars a year.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General shall keep the seal heretofore adopted for his Department, which shall be affixed to all commissions of postmasters and others, and used to authenticate all transcripts and copies which may be required from his Department.

Official seal.
R. S., § 395.
—custody of.
—use of.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General shall make out and keep, in proper books, full and complete inventories and accounts of all the property belonging to the United States in the buildings, rooms, offices, and grounds occupied by him and under his charge; and shall add thereto, from time to time, an account of such property as may be procured subsequently to the taking of the same, and also an account of the sale or disposal of any such property, and to report the same to Congress during the first week of each annual session. But this section shall not apply to the supplies of stationery and fuel.

Record and report of property.
Property in Department,
R. S., § 397.
—record of

—sale of useless.
—report of.

Approved June 8, 1872.

For the purpose of making better postal arrangements with foreign countries, or to counteract their adverse measures affecting our postal intercourse with them, the Postmaster-General, by and with the advice and consent of the President, may negotiate and conclude postal treaties or conventions, and may reduce or increase the rates of postage on mail matter conveyed between the United States and foreign countries.

Postal conventions with foreign countries.
R. S., § 398.
—to be negotiated by the Postmaster-General.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General shall transmit a copy of each postal convention concluded with foreign governments to the Secretary of State, who shall furnish a copy of the same to the Congressional Printer for publication; and the printed proof sheets of all such conventions shall be revised at the Post-Office Department.

Publication of postal conventions.
R. S., § 399.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Blank agency
at Washing-
ton, D. C.
R. S., § 400.

The Postmaster-General may establish a blank agency for the Post-Office Department, to be located at Washington, District of Columbia.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Foreign dead
matter.
R. S., § 401.
—treatment
subject to con-
ventions.

The action of the Post-Office Department respecting foreign dead letters shall be subject to conventional stipulations with the respective foreign Administrations.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Orders, con-
tracts, etc., to
bear true date.
R. S., § 402.

Every order, entry, or memorandum whatever, on which any action is to be based, allowance made, or money paid, and every contract, paper, or obligation made by or with the Post-Office Department, shall have its true date affixed to it; and every paper relating to contracts or allowances filed in the Department shall have the date when it was filed indorsed upon it.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Bonds and
contracts to be
in name of
United States.
R. S., § 403.

All bonds taken and contracts entered into by the Post-Office Department shall be made to and with the United States of America.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Duplicate of
contracts to be
delivered to
Auditor.
R. S., § 404.

The Postmaster-General shall deliver to the Sixth Auditor, within sixty days after the making of any contract for carrying the mail, a duplicate copy thereof.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Orders and
regulations to
be certified to
Auditor.
R. S., § 405.

All orders and regulations of the Postmaster-General which may originate a claim, or in any manner affect the accounts of the postal service, shall be certified to the Sixth Auditor.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Payments by
postmasters.
R. S., § 406.

Upon the certified quarterly statement by the Sixth Auditor of the payments by postmasters on account of the postal service, the Postmaster-General shall issue his warrant to the Treasurer to carry the amount to the credit of the postal revenues and to the debit of the proper appropriations upon the books of the Auditor.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Postal reve-
nues and col-
lections to be
paid into the
Treasury.
R. S., § 407.

The postal revenues and all debts due the Post-Office Department shall, when collected, be paid into the Treasury of the United States, under the direction of the Postmaster-General; and the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, or designated depository receiving such payment shall give the depository duplicate receipts therefor.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Bringing de-
posits into
Treasury.
R. S., § 408.
—warrants
for.

All deposits on account of the postal service shall be brought into the Treasury by warrants of the Postmaster-General, countersigned by the Auditor; and no credit shall be allowed for any deposit until such warrant has been issued.

Approved June 8, 1872.

In all cases of fine, penalty, forfeiture, or disability, or alleged liability for any sum of money by way of damages or otherwise, under any provision of law in relation to the officers, employees, operations, or business of the postal service, the Postmaster-General may prescribe such general rules and modes of proceeding as shall appear to be expedient, for the government of the Sixth Auditor, in ascertaining the fact in each case in which the Auditor shall certify to him that the interests of the Department probably require the exercise of his powers over fines, penalties, forfeitures, and liabilities; and upon the fact being ascertained, the Auditor may, with the written consent of the Postmaster-General, mitigate or remit such fine, penalty, or forfeiture, remove such disability, or compromise, release, or discharge such claim for such sum of money and damages, and on such terms as the Auditor shall deem just and expedient.

Compromise, remission, etc., of fines, penalties, forfeitures, disabilities, liabilities, etc.

R. S., § 409.

Auditor may make, with consent of Postmaster-General.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may discharge from imprisonment any person confined in jail on any judgment in a civil case, obtained in behalf of the Department, if it be made to appear that the defendant has no property of any description.

Discharge of imprisoned judgment debtors.

R. S., § 410.

—Postmaster-General may order.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The release provided for by the preceding section (R. S. § 410) shall not bar a subsequent execution against the property of the defendant on the same judgment.

—no bar to subsequent execution.

R. S., § 411.

Approved June 8, 1872.

No person employed in the Post-Office Department shall become interested in any contract for carrying the mail, or act as agent, with or without compensation, for any contractor or person offering to become a contractor, in any business before the Department; and any person so offending shall be immediately dismissed from office, and shall be liable to pay so much money as would have been realized from said contract, to be recovered in an action of debt, for the use of the Post-Office Department.

Employees of Post-Office Department not to be interested in contracts.

R. S., § 412.

—not to act as agents.

—penalty.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General shall make the following annual reports to Congress:

Reports of Postmaster-General to Congress.

First. A report of all contracts for carrying the mail made within the preceding year, giving in each case the name of the contractor, the date and duration of the contract, the routes embraced therein, with the length of each; the time of arrival and departure at the ends of each route; the mode of transportation, and the price to be paid, together with a copy of the recorded abstracts of all proposals for carrying the mail, as provided by section three thousand nine hundred and forty-eight (R. S.), title "THE POSTAL SERVICE."

R. S., § 413.
—of contracts for carrying mail.

Second. A report of all land and water mails established or ordered within the preceding year, other than those let to contract at the annual letting, giving in each case the route or water

—of additional mail routes established.

course on which the mail is established, the name of the person employed to transport it, the mode of transportation, the price to be paid, and the duration of the order or contract.

—of extra allowances to contractors.

Third. A report of all allowances made to contractors within the preceding year above the sums originally stipulated in their respective contracts, and the reasons for the same, and of all orders made whereby additional expense is incurred on any route beyond the original contract price, giving in each case the route, the name of the contractor, the original service provided for by the contract, the original price, the additional service required, and the additional allowance therefor.

—of curtailments of expenses.

Fourth. A report of all curtailments of expenses effected within the preceding year, giving in each case the same particulars as in the preceding report.

—of finances.

Fifth. A report of the finances of the Department for the preceding year, showing the amount of balance due the Department at the beginning of the year, the amount of postage which accrued within the year, the amount of engagements and liabilities, and the amount actually paid during the year for carrying the mail, showing how much of the amount was for carrying the mail in preceding years.

—of fines and deductions from contractors.

Sixth. A report of the fines imposed on and the deductions from the pay of contractors made during the preceding year, stating the name of the contractor, the nature of the delinquency, the route on which it occurred, when the fine was imposed, and whether the fine or deduction has been remitted and for what reason.

—copy of foreign mail contracts.

Seventh. A copy of each contract for carrying the mail between the United States and foreign countries, with a statement of the amount of postage derived under the same, so far as the returns of the Department will enable it to be done.

—of all other contracts.

Eighth. A report showing all contracts which have been made by the Department, other than for carrying the mail, giving the name of the contractor, the article or thing contracted for, the place where the article was to be delivered or the thing performed, the amount paid therefor, and the date and duration of the contract.

—of postal business in foreign countries.

Ninth. A report on the postal business and agencies in foreign countries.

—of all expenditures.

Tenth. A report of the amount expended in the Department for the preceding fiscal year, including detailed statements of expenditures made from the contingent fund.

—reports to be printed.

And the Postmaster-General shall cause all of such reports to be printed at the Public Printing Office, either together or separately, and in such numbers as may be required by the exigencies of the service or by law.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Annual estimates by Postmaster-General to Congress, through Secretary of Treasury.

The Postmaster-General shall furnish a copy of his annual estimates to the Secretary of the Treasury prior to the first of November in each year, which shall be reported to Congress by the latter in his regular printed estimates.

Approved June 8, 1872.

R. S., § 414.
See 1875,
Mar. 3, ch. 129, § 3, 1 Supp., 72.

Each district attorney shall, immediately after the end of every term in which any suit for moneys due on account of the Post-Office Department has been pending in his district, forward to the Department of Justice a statement of any judgment or order made, or step taken in the same, during such term, accompanied by a certificate of the clerk, showing the parties to and amount of every such judgment, with such other information as the Department of Justice may require. And the said attorney shall direct speedy and effectual execution upon said judgment, and the United States marshal to whom the same is directed shall make returns of the proceedings thereon to the Department of Justice, at such times as it may direct.

Reports of
proceedings in
postal suits.
R. S., § 775.
—district at-
torneys to
make.

Execution
on judgments
to be speedy.

Approved June 8, 1872.

* * * all suits arising under the postal laws shall be brought in the name of the United States.

Suits to be
in name of
United States.
R. S., § 919.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may transfer money belonging to the postal service between the Treasurer, assistant treasurers, and designated depositaries, at his discretion, and as the safety of the public money and the convenience of the service may require.

Transfer of
money.
R. S., § 3641.
—how made.
—when.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General shall submit to Congress at each annual session an estimate of the amount that will be required for the ensuing fiscal year, under each of the following heads:

Estimates for
appropriations.
R. S., § 3668.
—to be submit-
ted annually.
—classifica-
tion.

First. Transportation of the mails.

Second. Compensation of postmasters.

Third. Compensation of clerks in post-offices.

Fourth. Compensation of letter carriers.

Fifth. Compensation of blank agents and assistants.

Sixth. Mail depredations and special agents.

Seventh. Postage stamps and envelopes.

Eighth. Ship, steamboat, and way letters.

Ninth. Dead letters.

Tenth. Mail bags.

Eleventh. Mail locks, keys, and stamps.

Twelfth. Wrapping paper.

Thirteenth. Office furniture.

Fourteenth. Advertising.

Fifteenth. Balances to foreign countries.

Sixteenth. Rent, light, and fuel for post-offices.

Seventeenth. Stationery.

Eighteenth. Miscellaneous.

Such estimates shall show the sums paid under each head, and the names of the persons to whom payments are made out of the miscellaneous fund; but the names of persons employed in detecting depredations on the mail, and of other confidential agents, need not be disclosed.

—to show pay-
ments under
each head and
out of miscel-
laneous fund.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Payments by warrant. R. S., § 3674. —how drawn. —to show appropriation on which drawn.

Payments of money out of the Treasury on account of the postal service shall be in pursuance of appropriations made by law, by warrants of the Postmaster-General, registered and countersigned by the Auditor for the Post-Office Department, and expressing on their face the appropriation to which they should be charged.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Post-offices. R. S., § 3829. —Postmaster-General to establish. —penalty for setting up without authority.

The Postmaster-General shall establish post-offices at all such places on post roads established by law as he may deem expedient, and he shall promptly certify such establishment to the Auditor for the Post-Office Department, and every person who, without authority from the Postmaster-General, sets up or professes to keep any office or place of business bearing the sign, name, or title of post-office shall, for every such offense, be liable to a penalty of not more than five hundred dollars.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Postmasters to reside within delivery of office. R. S., § 3831.

Every postmaster shall reside within the delivery of the office to which he is appointed.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Failure to take oath. R. S., § 3832. —not exempt from penalties, etc., by.

Every person employed in the postal service shall be subject to all penalties and forfeitures for violation of the laws relating to such service whether he has taken the oath of office or not.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Suits and prosecutions in State courts. R. S., § 3833.

All causes of action arising under the postal laws may be sued, and all offenders against the same may be prosecuted, before the justices of the peace, magistrates, or other judicial courts of the several States and Territories having competent jurisdiction by the laws thereof, to the trial of claims and demands of as great value, and of prosecutions where the punishments are of as great extent; and such justices, magistrates, or judiciary shall take cognizance thereof, and proceed to judgment and execution as in other cases.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Bonds of postmasters. R. S., § 3834. —conditions of. —at money-order offices.

Every postmaster, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall give bond, with good and approved security, and in such penalty as the Postmaster-General shall deem sufficient, conditioned for the faithful discharge of all duties and trusts imposed on him either by law or the rules and regulations of the Department; and where an office is designated as a money-order office, the bond of the postmaster shall contain an additional condition for the faithful performance of all duties and obligations in connection with the money-order business. On the death, resignation, or removal of a postmaster, his bond shall be delivered to the

Bonds of married women appointed postmasters.

Sixth Auditor. The bond of any married woman who may be appointed postmaster shall be binding upon her and her sureties, and she shall be liable for misconduct in office as if she were sole.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Whenever any postmaster is required to execute a new bond, all payments made by him after the execution of such new bond may, if the Postmaster-General or the Sixth Auditor deem it just, be applied first to discharge any balance which may be due from such postmaster under his old bond.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Application of payments after new bond.
R. S., § 3835.
See 1879, Feb. 4, ch. 45, 1 Supp., 214.
—how may be made.

Whenever the office of any postmaster becomes vacant, the Postmaster-General or the President shall supply such vacancy without delay, and the Postmaster-General shall promptly notify the Sixth Auditor of the change; and every postmaster and his sureties shall be responsible under their bond for the safe-keeping of the public property of the post-office, and the due performance of the duties thereof, until the expiration of the commission, or until a successor has been duly appointed and qualified, and has taken possession of the office; except that in cases where there is a delay of sixty days in supplying a vacancy, the sureties may terminate their responsibility by giving notice, in writing, to the Postmaster-General, such termination to take effect ten days after sufficient time shall have elapsed to receive a reply from the Postmaster-General; and the Postmaster-General may, when the exigencies of the service require, place such office in charge of a special agent (post-office inspector) until the vacancy can be regularly filled; and when such special agent shall have taken charge of such post-office, the liability of the sureties of the postmaster shall cease.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Vacancies in post-office to be promptly filled.
R. S., § 3836.
See 1895, Mar. 2, ch. 177, § 5, 2 Supp., 419.
Auditor to be advised of change.
Liability of sureties.
—to continue till vacancy is filled, etc.
—may be terminated by notice.

Inspector may be put in charge.

Whenever any of the sureties of a postmaster notify the Postmaster-General of their desire to be released from their suretyship, or when the Postmaster-General deems a new bond necessary, he shall require the postmaster to execute such new bond, with security. When accepted by the Postmaster-General, the new bond shall be as valid as the bond given upon the original appointment of such postmaster, and the sureties in the prior bond shall be released from responsibility for all acts or defaults of the postmaster which may be done or committed subsequent to the last day of the quarter in which such new bond shall be executed and accepted.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Release of sureties and renewal of postmasters' bonds.
R. S., § 3837.
Sureties released from acceptance of new bonds.

If on the settlement of the account of any postmaster it shall appear that he is indebted to the United States, and suit therefor shall not be instituted within three years after the close of such account, the sureties on his bond shall not be liable for such indebtedness.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Limitations in suits.
—on postmasters' bonds, three years.
R. S., § 3838.

Every postmaster shall keep an office in which one or more persons shall be on duty during such hours of each day as the Postmaster-General may direct, for the purpose of receiving, delivering, making up, and forwarding all mail matter received thereat.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Post-offices to be open as directed by Postmaster-General.
R. S., § 3839.

Time for closing mails. R. S., § 3840. All letters brought to any post-office half an hour before the time for the departure of the mail shall be forwarded therein; but at offices where, in the opinion of the Postmaster-General, more time for making up the mail is required, he may prescribe accordingly, not exceeding one hour.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Registers of arrivals and departures. R. S., § 3841. Reports, how made. The Postmaster-General shall furnish to the postmasters at the termination of each route a schedule of the time of arrival and departure of the mail at their offices, respectively, to be posted in a conspicuous place in the office; and he shall also give them notice of any change in the arrival and departure that may be ordered; and he shall cause to be kept and returned to the Department, at short and regular intervals, registers, showing the exact times of the arrivals and departures of the mail.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Records at post-offices. R. S., § 3842. —of stamps. —of supplies, etc. —of receipts. —of expenditures. —to be preserved. Every postmaster shall keep a record, in such form as the Postmaster-General shall direct, of all postage stamps, envelopes, postal books, blanks, and property received from his predecessor, or from the Department or any of its agents; of all receipts in money for postages and box rents, and of all other receipts on account of the postal service, and of any other transactions which may be required by the Postmaster-General; and these records shall be preserved and delivered to his successor, and shall be at all times subject to examination by any special agent of the Department (post-office inspector).

Approved June 8, 1872.

Quarterly return of accounts. R. S., § 3843. —to be rendered. Every postmaster shall render to the Postmaster-General, under oath, and in such form as the latter shall prescribe, a quarterly account of all moneys received or charged by him or at his office, for postage, rent of boxes or other receptacles for mail matter, or by reason of keeping a branch office, or for the delivery of mail matter in any manner whatever.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Quarterly accounts to be sworn to. R. S., § 3844. The Postmaster-General may require a sworn statement to accompany each quarterly account of a postmaster, to the effect that such account contains a true statement of the entire amount of postage, box rents, charges, and moneys collected or received at his office during the quarter; that he has not knowingly delivered, or permitted to be delivered, any mail matter on which the postage was not at the time paid; that such account exhibits truly and faithfully the entire receipts collected at his office, and which, by due diligence, could have been collected; and that the credits he claims are just and right.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Neglect to render accounts. R. S., § 3845. Whenever any postmaster neglects to render his accounts for one month after the time, and in the form and manner prescribed by law and the regulations of the Postmaster-General, he and his

sureties shall forfeit and pay double the amount of the gross receipts at such office during any previous or subsequent equal period of time; and if, at the time of trial, no account has been rendered, they shall be liable to a penalty of such sum as the court and jury shall estimate to be equivalent thereto, to be recovered in an action on the bond.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Postmasters shall keep safely, without loaning, using, depositing in an unauthorized bank, or exchanging for other funds, all the public money collected by them, or which may come into their possession, until it is ordered by the Postmaster-General to be transferred or paid out.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The postmaster at Washington, and postmasters at cities where there is an assistant treasurer, shall deposit the postal revenues, and all money accruing at their offices, with such assistant treasurer, as often as once a week at least, and as much oftener as the Postmaster-General may direct.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Every postmaster shall promptly report to the Postmaster-General every delinquency, neglect, or malpractice of the contractors, their agents or carriers, which comes to his knowledge.

Approved June 8, 1872.

No postmaster, assistant postmaster, or clerk employed in any post-office shall be a contractor or concerned in any contract for carrying the mail.

Approved June 8, 1872.

No postmaster shall act as agent for any lottery office or, under any color of purchase or otherwise, vend lottery tickets; nor shall he receive or send any lottery scheme, circular, or ticket free of postage. For any violation of this section the offender shall be liable to a penalty of fifty dollars.

Approved June 8, 1872.

No postmaster shall, under any pretense whatever, have, receive, or retain for himself, in the aggregate, more than the amount of his salary and his commission on the money-order business. * * *

Approved June 8, 1872.

No person employed in the postal service shall receive any fees or perquisites on account of the duties to be performed by virtue of his appointment.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The salary of a postmaster and such other expenses of the postal service authorized by law as may be incurred by him, and for which appropriations have been made, may be deducted out of the receipts of his office, under the direction of the Postmaster-General.

Approved June 8, 1872.

—postmasters may be removed for.

—penalty upon bond for.

Money to be safely kept.

R. S., § 3846.

See R. S., § 3847.

—until ordered to be transferred or paid out.

Deposits of surplus revenue and other money.

R. S., § 3848.

See R. S., § 3615.

—at cities where treasurer, etc.

Delinquencies.

R. S., § 3849.

—report of.

Postmasters and employees not to be contractors.

R. S., § 3850.

Postmasters not to act as lottery agents.

R. S., § 3851.

—penalty.

Postmasters not to retain more than salary or compensation and commissions allowed.

R. S., § 3857.

Employees forbidden to receive fees from public.

R. S., § 3858.

Deduction of salaries and expenses from receipts.

R. S., § 3861.

—to be under direction of Postmaster-General.

Vouchers for expenditures.

R. S., § 3862.
—to be submitted to Auditor.

Vouchers for all deductions made by a postmaster out of the receipts of his office, on account of the expenses of the postal service, shall be submitted for examination and settlement to the Sixth Auditor, and no such deduction shall be valid unless found to be in conformity with law.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Allowances for clerical assistance where unusual business accrues.

R. S., § 3863.

Whenever unusual business accrues at any post-office, the Postmaster-General shall make a special order allowing reasonable compensation for clerical service and a proportionate increase of salary to the postmaster during the time of such extraordinary business.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Discontinuance of post-offices.

R. S., § 3864.

—to be certified to Auditor.

The Postmaster-General may discontinue any post-office where the safety and security of the postal service and revenues are endangered from any cause whatever, or where the efficiency of the service requires such discontinuance, and he shall promptly certify such discontinuance to the Sixth Auditor.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Uniforms of carriers.

R. S., § 3867.

—penalty for wearing unlawfully.

The Postmaster-General may prescribe a uniform dress to be worn by letter carriers, and any person not connected with the letter-carrier branch of the postal service who shall wear the uniform which may be prescribed shall for every such offense be punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Street letter boxes.

R. S., § 3868.

The Postmaster-General may establish, in places where letter carriers are employed, and in other places where, in his judgment, the public convenience requires it, receiving boxes for the deposit of mail matter, and shall cause the matter deposited therein to be collected as often as public convenience may require.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Injuring letter boxes and assaulting carriers.

R. S., § 3869.

—penalty.

Every person who willfully and maliciously injures, tears down, or destroys any letter box, pillar box, or other receptacle established by the Postmaster-General for the safe deposit of matter for the mail or for delivery, or who willfully and maliciously assaults any letter carrier, when in uniform, while engaged on his route in the discharge of his duty as a letter carrier, and every person who willfully aids or assists therein, shall for every such offense be punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars, and not more than one thousand, or by imprisonment for not less than one year and not more than three.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Bonds of letter carriers.

R. S., § 3870.

Every letter carrier shall give bonds, with sureties, to be approved by the Postmaster-General, for the safe custody and delivery of all mail matter, and the faithful account and payment of all money received by him.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General, when the public convenience requires it, may establish within any post-office delivery one or more branch offices for the receipt and delivery of mail matter and the sale of stamps and envelopes; and he shall prescribe the rules and regulations for the government thereof. But no letter shall be sent for delivery to any branch office contrary to the request of the party to whom it is addressed.

Approved June 8, 1872.

No extra postage or carriers' fees shall be charged or collected upon any mail matter collected or delivered by carriers.

Approved June 8, 1872.

All expenses of letter carriers, branch offices, and receiving boxes, or incident thereto, shall be kept and reported in a separate account, and shall be shown in comparison with the proceeds from postage on local mail matter at each office, and the Postmaster-General shall be guided in the expenditures for this branch of the service by the income derived therefrom.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Mailable matter shall be divided into three classes:

First. Letters.

Second. Regular printed matter.

Third. Miscellaneous matter.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Mailable matter of the first class shall embrace all correspondence, wholly or partly in writing, except book manuscripts and corrected proof sheets passing between authors and publishers.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General shall furnish to the post-offices exchanging mails with foreign countries, and to such other offices as he may deem expedient, postal balances denominated in grams of the metric system, fifteen grams of which shall be the equivalent, for postal purposes, of one-half ounce avoirdupois, and so on in progression.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may prescribe by regulation the manner of wrapping and securing for the mails all matter not charged with letter postage, so that it may be conveniently examined by postmasters; and if not so wrapped and secured, it shall be subject to letter postage.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Postmasters at the office of delivery may remove the wrappers and envelopes from mail matter not charged with letter postage, when it can be done without destroying them, for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is upon or connected with any such matter anything which would authorize or require the charge of a higher rate of postage thereon.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Branch post-offices.
R. S., § 3871.
—may be established, when.

Extra postage or carriers' fees prohibited.
R. S., § 3873.

Expenses of carriers and branch offices.
R. S., § 3874.

Mail matter, division of.
R. S., § 3875.

Mail matter, first class.
R. S., § 3876.

Metric postal balances.
R. S., § 3880.
—to be furnished exchange offices.

Wrapping of mail matter.
R. S., § 3881.

Rating up postage and search for matter improperly rated.
R. S., § 3882.

Wrapping and folding of publications, etc. No newspapers shall be received to be conveyed by mail unless they are sufficiently dried and inclosed in proper wrappers.
 R. S., § 3883. Approved June 8, 1872.

Publisher to be notified when matter is refused. Postmasters shall notify the publisher of any newspaper, or other periodical, when any subscriber shall refuse to take the same from the office, or neglect to call for it for the period of one month.
 R. S., § 3885. Approved June 8, 1872.

Writing inclosed in matter of lower class. Any person who shall inclose or conceal any letter, memorandum, or other thing in any mail matter not charged with letter postage, or make any writing or memorandum thereon, or deposit or cause the same to be deposited for conveyance by mail at a less rate than letter postage, shall, for every such offense, be liable to a penalty of five dollars; and such mail matter or inclosure shall not be delivered until the postage is paid thereon at letter rates. But no extra postage shall be charged for a card printed or impressed upon an envelope or wrapper.
 R. S., § 3887. Approved June 8, 1872.

Newspapers may be carried out of the mail. Contractors or mail carriers may convey, out of the mail, newspapers for sale or distribution to subscribers.
 R. S., § 3888. Approved June 8, 1872.

Second-class matter. The Postmaster-General may provide by order the terms upon which railway postal clerks may receive from publishers or any news agents in charge thereof, and deliver the same as directed, if presented and called for at the mail car or steamer, packages of newspapers and other periodicals not received from or intended for delivery at any post-office.
 R. S., § 3889. Approved June 8, 1872.

Unlawful detention of mail matter by postmasters. Any postmaster who shall unlawfully detain in his office any letter or other mail matter, the posting of which is not prohibited by law, with intent to prevent the arrival and delivery of the same to the person to whom it is addressed, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, and by imprisonment for not more than six months, and he shall be forever thereafter incapable of holding the office of postmaster.
 R. S., § 3890. Approved June 8, 1872.

Detaining, opening, or destroying of letters by persons in postal service. Any person employed in any department of the postal service, who shall unlawfully detain, delay, or open any letter, packet, bag, or mail of letters intrusted to him, or which has come into his possession, and which was intended to be conveyed by mail, or carried or delivered by any mail carrier, mail messenger, route agent, letter carrier, or other person employed in any department of the postal service, or forwarded through or delivered from any post-office or branch post-office established by authority of the Postmaster-General; or who shall secrete, embezzle, or destroy any such letter, packet, bag, or mail of letters, although it does not contain any security for or assurance relating to money or

other thing of value, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or by both. —penalty.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any person who shall take any letter, postal card, or packet, although it does not contain any article of value or evidence thereof, out of a post-office or branch post-office, or from a letter or mail carrier, or which has been in any post-office or branch post-office or in the custody of any letter or mail carrier, before it has been delivered to the person to whom it was directed, with a design to obstruct the correspondence, or to pry into the business or secrets of another, or shall secrete, embezzle, or destroy the same, shall, for every such offense, be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars or by imprisonment at hard labor for not more than one year, or by both. —penalty.

Intercepting
or secreting
letters.
R. S., § 3892.

Prying into
secrets or ob-
structing cor-
respondence of
another, etc.

Approved June 8, 1872.

All letters, packets, or other matter which may be seized or detained for violation of law shall be returned to the owner or sender of the same, or otherwise disposed of as the Postmaster-General may direct.

Seized or de-
tained matter.
R. S., § 3895.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Postage on all mail matter must be prepaid by stamps at the time of mailing, unless herein otherwise provided for.

Prepayment
of postage.
R. S., § 3896.

Approved June 8, 1872.

All mail matter deposited for mailing on which one full rate of postage has been paid as required by law, shall be forwarded to its destination, charged with any portion of the proper postage which may be unpaid, to be collected on delivery. But if any mail matter, on which by law the postage is required to be prepaid at the mailing office, shall by inadvertance reach its destination without any prepayment, double the prepaid rates shall be charged and collected on delivery.

R. S., § 3898.

Approved June 8, 1872.

If any postmaster, or other person authorized by the Postmaster-General to receive the postage of letters, shall fraudulently demand or receive any rate of postage, or gratuity, or reward, other than is provided by this act (June 8, 1872, ch. 335; 17 Stat. L., 283), for the postage of letters or packets, he shall be punishable by a fine of one hundred dollars. —penalty.

Demand or
receipt of un-
lawful postage.
R. S., § 3899.

Approved June 8, 1872.

No mail matter shall be delivered until the postage due thereon has been paid.

Collection of
postage due.
R. S., § 3900.

Approved June 8, 1872.

No box at any post-office shall be assigned to the use of any person until the rent thereof has been paid for at least one quarter in advance, for which the postmaster shall give a receipt.

Rent of boxes.
R. S., § 3901.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Letters of soldiers, transmitted unpaid. The Postmaster-General may provide by regulations for transmitting unpaid and duly certified letters of soldiers, sailors, and marines in the service of the United States to their destination.
R. S., § 3902.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Drop letters, rate of postage on. Letters commonly known as drop or local letters, delivered through the post-office or its carriers, shall be charged with postage at the rate of two cents where the system of free delivery is established, and one cent where such system is not established, for each half ounce or fraction thereof.
R. S., § 3904.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Newspapers, rate of postage on certain. The Postmaster-General may provide by regulations for carrying small newspapers, issued less frequently than once a week, in packages to one address, from a known office of publication to regular subscribers, at the rate of one cent for each four ounces or fraction thereof.
R. S., § 3907.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Newspapers, postage required of regular dealers on. Persons known as regular dealers in newspapers and periodicals may receive and transmit by mail such quantities of either as they may require, and pay the postage thereon as received, at the same rates pro rata as regular subscribers to such publications who pay quarterly in advance.
R. S., § 3908.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Third-class matter, rate of postage on. On mailable matter of the third class, except as herein stated, postage shall be charged at the rate of one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof. Double these rates shall be charged for books, samples of metals, ores, minerals, and merchandise.
R. S., § 3910.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Rates of postage to foreign countries not in Postal Union. The rate of United States postage on mail matter sent to or received from foreign countries with which different rates have not been established by postal convention or other arrangement, when forwarded by vessels regularly employed in transporting the mail, shall be ten cents for each half ounce or fraction thereof on letters, unless reduced by order of the Postmaster-General; two cents each on newspapers, and not exceeding two cents per each two ounces, or fraction thereof, on pamphlets, periodicals, books, and other printed matter, which postage shall be prepaid on matter sent and collected on matter received; and to avoid loss to the United States in the payment of balances, the Postmaster-General may collect the unpaid postage on letters from foreign countries in coin or its equivalent.
R. S., § 3912.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Double postage on ship letters. All letters conveyed by vessels not regularly employed in carrying the mail shall, if for delivery within the United States, be charged with double postage, to cover the fee paid to the vessel.
R. S., § 3913.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General shall prepare postage stamps of suitable denominations, which, when attached to mail matter, shall be evidence of the payment of the postage thereon.

Postmaster-General to prepare stamps.
R. S., § 3914.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General shall provide suitable letter and newspaper envelopes, with such watermarks or other guards against counterfeits as he may deem expedient, and with postage stamps with such device and of such suitable denominations as he may direct impressed thereon; and such envelopes shall be known as "stamped envelopes," and shall be sold as nearly as may be at the cost of procuring them, with the addition of the value of the postage stamps impressed thereon; but no stamped envelope furnished by the Government shall contain any lithographing or engraving, nor any printing except a printed request to return the letter to the writer. Letters and papers inclosed in such stamped envelopes shall, if the postage stamp is of a denomination sufficient to cover the postage properly chargeable thereon, pass in the mail as prepaid matter.

Stamped envelopes, etc.
R. S., § 3915.
1876, July 12, ch. 179, § 14, 1 Supp., 110; 1895, Jan. 12, ch. 23, § 96, 2 Supp., 364.
—Postmaster-General to provide.
—to be sold at cost.
—not to contain printing, except.

Approved June 8, 1872.

To facilitate letter correspondence, and to provide for the transmission in the mails, at a reduced rate of postage, of messages, orders, notices, and other short communications, either printed or written in pencil or ink, the Postmaster-General is authorized and directed to furnish and issue to the public, with postage stamps impressed upon them, "postal cards," manufactured of good stiff paper, of such quality, form, and size as he shall deem best adapted for general use; which cards shall be used as a means of postal intercourse, under rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Postmaster-General, and when so used shall be transmitted through the mails at a postage charge of one cent each, including the cost of their manufacture.

Postal cards.
R. S., § 3916.

Postmaster-General shall furnish.

—to be sold at one cent apiece.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may, from time to time, adopt such improvements in postage stamps and stamped envelopes as he may deem advisable; and when any such improvement is adopted it shall be subject to all the provisions herein respecting postage stamps or stamped envelopes.

Postmaster-General may adopt improvements in stamps and stamped envelopes.
R. S., § 3917.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Postage stamps and stamped envelopes shall be furnished by the Postmaster-General to all postmasters, and shall be kept for sale at all post-offices; and each postmaster shall be held accountable for all such stamps and envelopes furnished to him.

Postage stamps and stamped envelopes.
R. S., § 3918.
See R. S., § 3919.

—to be furnished and kept for sale at all offices.

Stamps to be defaced.
R. S., § 3921.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Postage stamps affixed to all mail matter or the stamped envelopes in which the same is inclosed shall, when deposited for mailing or delivery, be defaced by the postmaster at the mailing office, in such manner as the Postmaster-General may direct; and if any mail matter shall be forwarded without the stamps or envelopes

being so defaced, the postmaster at the office of delivery shall deface them, and report the delinquent postmaster to the Postmaster-General.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Unlawful removal of stamps by persons in postal service. Any person employed in any branch of the postal service who shall willfully and unlawfully remove from any mail matter any postage stamp affixed thereto in payment of the postage, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than six months.

R. S., § 3922.
—penalty.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Use, for postage, of stamps which have been before used. Any person who shall use or attempt to use, in payment of the postage on any mail matter conveyed by mail or otherwise, any postage stamp or stamped envelope, or any stamp cut from any such stamped envelope, which has been before used for a like purpose, shall be liable to a penalty of fifty dollars.

R. S., § 3923.
—penalty.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Use, by persons in postal service, for postage of stamps which have been before used. If any person employed in any department of the Post-Office establishment of the United States shall willfully and knowingly use, or cause to be used, in prepayment of postage, any postage stamp, postal cards or stamped envelope issued, or which may hereafter be issued, by authority of any act of Congress, or of the Postmaster-General, which has already been once used for a like purpose, or shall remove, or attempt to remove, the canceling or

R. S., § 3924.

Removal of canceling marks, etc.

defacing marks from any such postage stamp, or stamped envelope, or postal card, with intent to use or cause the use of the same a second time, or to sell, or offer to sell, the same, or shall remove from letters or other mail matter deposited in or received at a post-office the stamps attached to the same in payment of postage, with intent to use the same a second time for a like purpose, or to sell, or offer to sell, the same, every such offender shall be deemed guilty of felony, and shall be imprisoned for not less than one year nor more than three years.

—penalty.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Use, for postage, of stamps which have been before used, and removal of canceling marks, etc. If any person, although not employed in any department of the Post-Office establishment of the United States, shall commit any of the offenses described in the preceding section (R. S., § 3924), every such person shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and be punishable by imprisonment for not less than six months nor more than one year, or by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars for each offense, or by both.

R. S., § 3925.
—penalty.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Establishment of system of registration. For the greater security of valuable mail matter the Postmaster-General may establish a uniform system of registration. But the Post-Office Department or its revenue shall not be liable for the loss of any mail matter on account of its having been registered.

R. S., § 3926.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Mail matter shall be registered only on the application of the party posting the same, and the fee therefor shall not exceed twenty cents in addition to the regular postage, to be in all cases prepaid; and all such fees shall be accounted for in such manner as the Postmaster-General shall direct. But letters upon the official business of the Post-Office Department which require registering shall be registered free of charge and pass through the mails free of charge.

Registration of mail matter.
R. S., § 3927.
—on application of party mailing same.
—fee for.
Free registration.
—official postal matter.

Approved June 8, 1872.

A receipt shall be taken upon the delivery of any registered mail matter, showing to whom and when the same was delivered, which shall be returned to the sender, and be received in the courts as prima facie evidence of such delivery.

Return receipt.
R. S., § 3928.
—to be taken from addressee.
—prima facie evidence of delivery.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may, upon evidence satisfactory to him that any person is engaged in conducting a fraudulent lottery, gift enterprise, or scheme for the distribution of money or of any real or personal property by lot, chance, or drawing of any kind, or in conducting any other scheme or device for obtaining money through the mails by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, instruct postmasters at any post-office at which registered letters arrive directed to any such person to return all such registered letters to the postmasters at the offices at which they were originally mailed, with the word "fraudulent" plainly written or stamped upon the outside of such letters; and all such letters so returned to such postmasters shall be by them returned to the writers thereof, under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe. But nothing contained in this Title shall be so construed as to authorize any postmaster or other person to open any letter not addressed to himself.

Registered letters to lotteries, etc., may be returned.
R. S., § 3929.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may direct the publication of the list of non-delivered letters at any post-office by written list posted in some public place, or, when he shall deem it for the public interest, he may direct the publication of such list in the daily or weekly newspaper regularly published within the post-office delivery which has the largest circulation within such delivery; and where no daily paper is published within the post-office delivery, such list may be published in the daily newspaper of any adjoining delivery having the largest circulation within the delivery of the post-office publishing the list; and in case of dispute as to the circulation of competing newspapers, the postmaster shall receive evidence and decide upon the fact. Such list shall be published as frequently as the Postmaster-General may deem proper, but not oftener than once a week.

Advertising of non-delivered letters.
R. S., § 3930.

—in daily or weekly newspapers.

—frequency of publication.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The list of non-delivered letters addressed to foreign-born persons may be published in a newspaper printed in the language most used by them, which shall be selected in the manner prescribed in the preceding section (R. S., § 3930).

Advertising foreign letters.
R. S., § 3931.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Free registration of United States currency for redemption and new currency for currency redeemed.

R. S., § 3932.

Under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe, all postmasters are authorized to register in the manner prescribed by law, but without payment of any registration fee, all letters containing fractional or other currency of the United States, which shall be by them sent by mail to the Treasurer of the United States for redemption; and the postmaster at the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, shall register in like manner, without charge, all letters containing new currency returned for currency redeemed, which shall be received by him from the Treasurer, in sealed packages, marked with the word "register" over the official signature of the said Treasurer.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Posting list of advertised matter.

R. S., § 3933.

Every postmaster shall post, in a conspicuous place in his office, a copy of each list of non-delivered letters immediately after its publication.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Compensation for advertising.

R. S., § 3934.
—letters.

The compensation for publishing the list of non-delivered letters shall in no case exceed one cent for each letter so published.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Charge on a advertised matter.

R. S., § 3935.
—one cent in addition to postage.

All letters published as nondelivered shall be charged with one cent in addition to the regular postage, to be accounted for as part of the postal revenue.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Detention of undelivered matter and return to Dead-Letter Office.

R. S., § 3936.

The Postmaster-General may regulate the period during which undelivered letters shall remain in any post-office, and when they shall be returned to the Dead-Letter Office; and he may make regulations for their return from the Dead-Letter Office to the writers when they can not be delivered to the parties addressed.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Unpaid letter.

R. S., § 3937.

All domestic letters deposited in any post-office for mailing, on which the postage is wholly unpaid or paid less than one full rate as required by law, except letters lawfully free and duly certified letters of soldiers, sailors, and marines in the service of the United States, shall be sent by the postmaster to the Dead-Letter Office in Washington. * * *

—to be sent to Dead-Letter Office, except.

Insufficiently prepaid drop letters.

R. S., § 3937.
—to be forwarded when.

But in large cities and adjacent districts of dense population, having two or more post-offices within a distance of three miles of each other, any letter mailed at one of such offices and addressed to a locality within the delivery of another of such offices, which shall have been inadvertently prepaid at the drop or local letter rate of postage only, may be forwarded to its destination through the proper office, charged with the amount of the deficient postage, to be collected on delivery.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Dead letters containing valuable inclosures.

R. S., § 3938.

Dead letters containing valuable inclosures shall be registered in the Dead-Letter Office; and when they can not be delivered to the party addressed nor to the writer, the contents thereof shall

be disposed of, and a careful account shall be kept of the amount realized in each case, which shall be subject to reclamation by either the party addressed or the sender for four years from the registry thereof; and all other letters of value or of importance to the party addressed or to the writer, and which can not be returned to either, shall be disposed of as the Postmaster-General may direct.

Approved June 8, 1872.

—record of.
—disposition of.
—proceeds may be reclaimed in 4 years.
Letters of importance to writer to be disposed of as directed.

When the writer of any letter on which the postage is prepaid shall indorse upon the outside thereof his name and address, such letter shall not be advertised, but after remaining uncalled for at the office to which it is directed thirty days, or the time the writer may direct, shall be returned to him without additional charge for postage, and if not then delivered shall be treated as a dead letter.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Return requested letters.
R. S., § 3939.
—not to be advertised.

Prepaid letters shall be forwarded from one post-office to another, at the request of the party addressed, without additional charge for postage.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Forwarding of mail matter.
R. S., § 3940.

The Postmaster-General may enter into contracts for carrying the mail, with railway companies, without advertising for bids therefor.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Postmaster-General may contract without advertising.
R. S., § 3942.

Proposals for carrying the mail shall be delivered sealed, and so kept until the bidding is closed, and shall then be opened and marked in the presence of the Postmaster-General, and one of the Assistant Postmasters-General, or of two of the Assistant Postmasters-General, or of any other two officers of the Department, to be designated by the Postmaster-General; and any bidder may withdraw his bid at any time before twenty-four hours previous to the time fixed for the opening of proposals, by serving upon the Postmaster-General, or the Second Assistant Postmaster-General, notice in writing of such withdrawal.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Delivery and opening of proposals.
R. S., § 3944.
Before whom opened.
Withdrawal of proposals.

The Postmaster-General shall have recorded, in a book to be kept for that purpose, a true and faithful abstract of all proposals made to him for carrying the mail, giving the name of the party offering, the terms of the offer, the sum to be paid, and the time the contract is to continue; and he shall put on file and preserve the originals of all such proposals.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Bids to be recorded and preserved.
R. S., § 3948.

All contracts for carrying the mail shall be in the name of the United States, and shall be awarded to the lowest bidder tendering sufficient guarantees for faithful performance, without other reference to the mode of transportation than may be necessary to provide for the due celerity, certainty, and security

Contracts in name of United States.
R. S., § 3949.
Award to lowest bidder, except.

thereof; but the Postmaster-General shall not be bound to consider the bid of any person who has willfully or negligently failed to perform a former contract.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Combinations to prevent bidding.
R. S., § 3950.
—contracts not to be made with persons entering.

No contract for carrying the mail shall be made with any person who has entered, or proposed to enter, into any combination to prevent the making of any bid for carrying the mail, or who has made any agreement, or given or performed, or promised to give or perform, any consideration whatever to induce any other person not to bid for any such contract; and if any person so offending is a contractor for carrying the mail, his contract may be annulled; and for the first offense the person so offending shall be disqualified to contract for carrying the mail for five years, and for the second offense shall be forever disqualified.

Approved June 8, 1872.

New sureties on mail contracts.
R. S., § 3955.

The Postmaster-General, whenever he may deem it consistent with the public interest, may accept new surety upon any contract existing or hereafter made for carrying the mails, in substitution for and release of any existing surety.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Contracts limited to four years.
R. S., § 3956.

No contract for carrying the mail shall be made for a longer term than four years, and no contract for carrying the mail on the sea shall be made for a longer term than two years.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Change in terms of contracts.
R. S., § 3958.
—how effected.

Whenever it becomes necessary to change the terms of an existing contract for carrying the mail otherwise than as provided in the preceding section (R. S., § 3957), notice thereof shall be given and proceedings had thereon the same as at the letting of original contracts.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Payment on contracts.
R. S., § 3959.
—not to be made until contract is executed.

No person whose bid for carrying the mail is accepted shall receive any pay until he has executed his contract according to law and the regulations of the Department.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Additional service, carrying mail.
R. S., § 3960.

Compensation for additional service in carrying the mail shall not be in excess of the exact proportion which the original compensation bears to the original service; and when any such additional service is ordered, the sum to be allowed therefor shall be expressed in the order, and entered upon the books of the Department; and no compensation shall be paid for any additional regular service rendered before the issuing of such order.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Expedition of service.
R. S., § 3961.
—when authorized.
—compensation for.

No extra allowance shall be made for any increase of expedition in carrying the mail unless thereby the employment of additional stock and carriers is made necessary, and in such case the additional compensation shall bear no greater proportion to the additional stock and carriers necessarily employed than the com-

pensation in the original contract bears to the stock and carriers necessarily employed in its execution.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may make deductions from the pay of contractors, for failures to perform service according to contract, and impose fines upon them for other delinquencies. He may deduct the price of the trip in all cases where the trip is not performed; and not exceeding three times the price if the failure be occasioned by the fault of the contractor or carrier.

Deductions and fines for failures and delinquencies.
R. S., § 3962.

—authority for.

Approved June 8, 1872.

No contractor for transporting the mails within or between the United States and any foreign country shall assign or transfer his contract, and all such assignments or transfers shall be null and void.

Assignment of contracts prohibited.
R. S., § 3963.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The following are established post-roads :

All the waters of the United States, during the time the mail is carried thereon.

Post-roads.
R. S., § 3964.
—waters of United States.

All railroads or parts of railroads which are now or hereafter may be in operation.

—railroads.

All canals, during the time the mail is carried thereon.

—canals.

All plank roads, during the time the mail is carried thereon.

—plank roads.

The road on which the mail is carried to supply any court-house which may be without a mail, and the road on which the mail is carried under contract made by the Postmaster-General for extending the line of posts to supply mails to post-offices not on any established route, during the time such mail is carried thereon.

—roads to court-houses, etc.

All letter-carrier routes established in any city or town for the collection and delivery of mail matters.

—letter-carrier routes.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General shall provide for carrying the mail on all post-roads established by law, as often as he, having due regard to productiveness and other circumstances, may think proper.

Postmaster-General to provide for carrying mail on post-roads.
R. S., § 3965.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General shall cause a mail to be carried from the nearest post-office on any established post-road to the court-house of any county in the United States which is without a mail.

County seats to be supplied with mail.
R. S., § 3966.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may contract for carrying the mail on the navigable canals of the several States, when, in his opinion, the public interest or convenience requires it.

Carrying the mail on canals.
R. S., § 3967.
—contracts.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may contract for carrying the mail on any plank road in the United States when the public interest or convenience requires it.

Carrying the mail on plank roads.
R. S., § 3968.
—contracts for.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Carriage of mails by steamboat or vessel. R. S., § 3969. The Postmaster-General may cause the mail to be carried in any steamboat or other vessel used as a packet on any of the waters of the United States.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Mail service in steamships between United States ports. R. S., § 3970. The Postmaster-General may, if he deem it for the public interest, make contracts for any period not exceeding one year, for carrying the mails in steamships between any of the ports of the United States.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Temporary mails to offices not on established routes. R. S., § 3971. The Postmaster-General may enter into contracts for extending the line of posts to supply mails to post-offices not on any established route, and, as a compensation for carrying the mail under such contracts, may allow not exceeding two-thirds of the salary paid to the postmaster at such special offices.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Change of terminus of mail to and from post-roads. R. S., § 3973. The Postmaster-General may change the terminus of post-roads connecting with or intersecting railways when the service can be thereby improved.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Discontinuance of service on any road. R. S., § 3974. Whenever, in the opinion of the Postmaster-General, the postal service can not be safely continued, the revenues collected, or the laws maintained on any post-road, he may discontinue the service on such road or any part thereof until the same can be safely restored.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Contracts for transportation of mail to and from post-offices. R. S., § 3975. The Postmaster-General may, when he deems it advisable, contract for the transportation of the mails to and from any post-office; but where such service is performed over a route not established by law, he shall report the same to Congress at its meeting next thereafter, and such service shall cease at the end of the next session of Congress, unless such route is established a post-route by Congress.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Letters on steamboats. R. S., § 3977. The master of any steamboat passing between ports or places in the United States, and arriving at any such port or place where there is a post-office, shall deliver to the postmaster, within three hours after his arrival, if in the daytime, and if at night, within two hours after the next sunrise, all letters and packets brought by him, or within his power or control and not relating to the cargo, addressed to or destined for such port or place, for which he shall receive from the postmaster two cents for each letter or packet so delivered, unless the same is carried under a contract for carrying the mail; and for every failure to so deliver such letters and packets, the master or owner of the steamboat shall be liable to a penalty of one hundred and fifty dollars.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may pay, to the master or owner of any vessel not regularly employed in carrying the mail, two cents for each letter carried by such vessel between ports or places in the United States, or from any foreign port to any port in the United States; but all such letters shall be deposited in the post-office at the port of arrival.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any person who shall paint, print, or in any manner place upon or attach to any steamboat or other vessel, or any stage-coach or other vehicle, not actually used in carrying the mail, the words "United States mail," or any words, letters, or characters of like import; or any person who shall give notice, by publishing in any newspaper or otherwise, that any steamboat or other vessel, or any stage-coach or other vehicle, is used in carrying the mail, when the same is not actually so used; or any person willfully aiding or abetting therein, shall, for every such offense, be punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Every route agent, postal clerk, or other carrier of the mail shall receive any mail matter presented to him, if properly prepaid by stamps, and deliver the same for mailing at the next post-office at which he arrives, but no fees shall be allowed him therefor.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any person concerned in carrying the mail, who shall collect, receive, or carry any letter or packet, or cause or procure the same to be done, contrary to law, shall, for every such offense, be punishable by a fine of not more than fifty dollars.

Approved June 8, 1872.

No person shall establish any private express for the conveyance of letters or packets, or in any manner cause or provide for the conveyance of the same by regular trips or at stated periods, over any post route which is or may be established by law, or from any city, town, or place to any other city, town, or place between which the mail is regularly carried; and every person so offending, or aiding or assisting therein, shall for each offense be liable to a penalty of one hundred and fifty dollars.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The owner of every stagecoach, railway car, steamboat, or other vehicle or vessel, which shall, with the knowledge of any owner, in whole or in part, or with the knowledge or connivance of the driver, conductor, master, or other person having charge of the same, convey any person acting or employed as a private express for the conveyance of letters or packets, and actually in possession of the same for the purpose of conveying them, contrary to the spirit, true intent, and meaning of this Title (meaning Revised Statutes, Title XLVI, "The Postal Service"), shall, for every such offense, be liable to a penalty of one hundred and fifty dollars.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Compensation for carriage of ship letters.
R. S., § 3978.

Printing upon vessels, vehicles, etc., "United States mail."
R. S., § 3979.

Unlawful publication that vessel or vehicle is used in transporting mail.
—penalty.

Carriers to receive and deposit properly prepaid matter presented to them.
R. S., § 3980.

Illegal carrying of mail by carriers and others.
R. S., § 3981.
Penalty.

Conveyance of mail matter by private express forbidden.
R. S., § 3982.

Penalty.

Transportation of persons unlawfully conveying mail forbidden.
R. S., § 3983.

Penalty.

Transmission of letters by private express forbidden.

R. S., § 3984.

Penalty.

No person shall transmit by private express or other unlawful means, or deliver to any agent of such unlawful express, or deposit, or cause to be deposited, at any appointed place for the purpose of being transmitted, any letter or packet; and for every such offense the party offending shall be liable to a penalty of fifty dollars.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Illegal carrying of letters outside of mail.

R. S., § 3985.

—except.

Penalty on owner.

Penalty on driver.

No stagecoach, railway car, steamboat, or other vehicle or vessel which regularly performs trips at stated periods on any post route, or from any city, town, or place to any other city, town, or place between which the mail is regularly carried, shall carry, otherwise than in the mail, any letters or packets, except such as relate to some part of the cargo of such steamboat or other vessel, or to some article carried at the same time by the same stagecoach, railway car, or other vehicle, except as provided in section three thousand nine hundred and ninety-three (R. S.); and for every such offense the owner of the stagecoach, railway car, steamboat, or other vehicle or vessel shall be liable to a penalty of one hundred dollars; and the driver, conductor, master, or other person having charge thereof, and not at the time owner of the whole or any part thereof, shall for every such offense be liable to a penalty of fifty dollars.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Carrying letters out of the mail on board vessels.

R. S., § 3986.

Penalty.

No person shall carry any letter or packet on board any vessel which carries the mail otherwise than in such mail, except as provided in section three thousand nine hundred and ninety-three (R. S.); and for every such offense the party offending shall be liable to a penalty of fifty dollars.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Carriage by vessels of mail not received from post-office forbidden.

R. S., § 3987.

Officer of port to require oath of master of vessel not to violate this section.

No vessel departing from the United States for any foreign port shall receive on board or convey any letter or packet originating in the United States which has not been regularly received from the post-office at the port of departure, and which does not relate to the cargo of such vessel, except as provided in section three thousand nine hundred and ninety-three (of the Revised Statutes); and every collector, or other officer of the port empowered to grant clearances, shall require from the master of such vessel, as a condition of clearance, an oath that he has not received on board, has not under his care or control, and will not receive or convey any letter or packet contrary to the provisions of this section.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Vessels not to make entry until letters are delivered at postoffice.

R. S., § 3988.

Oath.

No vessel arriving within any port or collection district of the United States shall be allowed to make entry or break bulk until all letters on board are delivered at the nearest post-office, and the master thereof has signed and sworn to the following declaration before the collector or other proper customs officer:

“I, A B, master of the ———, arriving from ———, and now lying in the port of ———, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I have, to the best of my knowledge and belief, delivered, at the

post-office at ———, every letter, and every bag, packet, or parcel of letters which were on board the said vessel during her last voyage, or which were in my possession or under my power or control."

And any master who shall break bulk before he has delivered such letters shall be liable to a penalty of not more than one hundred dollars, recoverable, one half to the officer making the seizure and the other to the use of the United States.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any special agent of the Post-Office Department, when instructed by the Postmaster-General to make examinations and seizures, and the collector or other customs officer of any port, without special instructions, shall carefully search all vessels for letters which may be on board or which have been conveyed contrary to law.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any special agent of the Post-Office Department, collector or other customs officer, or United States marshal or his deputy, may at all times seize all letters and bags, packets, or parcels containing letters which are being carried contrary to law on board any vessel or on any post route, and convey the same to the nearest post-office, or may, by the direction of the Postmaster-General or Secretary of the Treasury, detain them until two months after the final determination of all suits and proceedings which may, at any time within six months after such seizure, be brought against any person for sending or carrying such letters.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Every package or parcel seized by any special agent of the Post-Office Department, collector, or other customs officer, or United States marshal or his deputies, in which any letter is unlawfully concealed, shall be forfeited to the United States, and the same proceedings may be had to enforce the forfeiture as are authorized in respect to goods, wares, and merchandise forfeited for violation of the revenue laws; and all laws for the benefit and protection of customs officers making seizures for violating revenue laws shall apply to officers making seizures for violating the postal laws.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Nothing herein contained shall be construed to prohibit the conveyance or transmission of letters or packets by private hands without compensation, or by special messenger employed for the particular occasion only.

Approved June 8, 1872.

All letters inclosed in stamped envelopes, if the postage stamp is of a denomination sufficient to cover the postage that would be chargeable thereon if the same were sent by mail, may be sent, conveyed, and delivered otherwise than by mail, provided such envelope shall be duly directed and properly sealed, so that the letter can not be taken therefrom without defacing the envelope, and the date of the letter or of the transmission or receipt thereof

Penalty for breaking bulk before delivery.

Agents of Department and customs collectors authorized to search vessels and make seizures.

R. S., § 3989.

Agents of Department or collectors may seize or detain letters, etc., illegally carried.

R. S., § 3990.

Period of detention.

Seized packages unlawfully containing letters to be forfeited to the United States.

R. S., § 3991.

Proceedings to enforce forfeiture.

Transmission of letters without compensation or on special occasions.

R. S., § 3992.

When letters may be carried out of the mail. R. S., § 3993. —in stamped envelopes.

Suspension of this section. shall be written or stamped upon the envelope. But the Postmaster-General may suspend the operation of this section upon any mail route where the public interest may require such suspension.
Approved June 8, 1872.

Obstructing the mails. R. S., § 3995. —penalty. Any person who shall knowingly and willfully obstruct or retard the passage of the mail, or any carriage, horse, driver, or carrier carrying the same, shall, for every such offense, be punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars.
Approved June 8, 1872.

Delaying mail at ferry. R. S., § 3996. —penalty. Any ferryman who shall delay the passage of the mail by willful neglect or refusal to transport the same across any ferry shall, for every ten minutes such mail may be so delayed, be liable to a penalty of ten dollars.
Approved June 8, 1872.

Railroad routes to be classified. R. S., § 3997. The Postmaster-General shall arrange the railway routes on which the mail is carried, including those in which the service is partly by railway and partly by steamboat, into three classes, according to the size of the mails, the speed at which they are carried, and the frequency and importance of the service, so that each railway company shall receive, as far as practicable, a proportionate and just rate of compensation, according to the service performed.
Approved June 8, 1872.

Transportation of mail by other means than railroad when rates demanded exceed maximum. R. S., § 3999. If the Postmaster-General is unable to contract for carrying the mail on any railway route at a compensation not exceeding the maximum rates herein provided, or for what he may deem a reasonable and fair compensation, he may separate the letter mail from the other mail, and contract, either with or without advertising, for carrying such letter mail by horse express or otherwise, at the greatest speed that can reasonably be obtained, and for carrying the other mail in wagons, or otherwise, at a slower rate of speed.
Approved June 8, 1872.

Mail to be carried on any train. R. S., § 4000. Every railway company carrying the mail shall carry on any train which may run over its road, and without extra charge therefor, all mailable matter directed to be carried thereon, with the person in charge of the same.
Approved June 8, 1872.

Land-grant roads. R. S., § 4001. —compensation to be fixed by Congress. —by Postmaster-General when Congress fails. All railway companies to which the United States have furnished aid by grant of lands, right of way, or otherwise, shall carry the mail at such prices as Congress may by law provide; and, until such price is fixed by law, the Postmaster-General may fix the rate of compensation.
Approved June 8, 1872.

Transportation of domestic mails through foreign countries. R. S., § 4006. The Postmaster-General, after advertising for proposals, may enter into contracts or make suitable arrangements for transporting the mail through any foreign country, between any two points in the United States, and such transportation shall be by the

speediest, safest, and most economical route; and all contracts therefor may be revoked whenever any new road or canal shall be opened affording a speedier, more economical, and equally safe transportation between the same points; but in case of the revocation of any such contract, a fair indemnity shall be awarded to the contractor.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may, after advertising for proposals, enter into contracts for the transportation of the mail between the United States and any foreign country whenever the public interests will thereby be promoted.

Transporting
mails between
United States
and foreign
countries.

R. S., § 4007.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The mail between the United States and any foreign port, or between ports of the United States touching at a foreign port, shall be transported in steamships; but the Postmaster-General may have such transportation performed by sailing vessels when the service can be facilitated thereby.

Foreign
mails.
R. S., § 4008.
—how trans-
ported.

Approved June 8, 1872.

For transporting the mail between the United States and any foreign port, or between ports of the United States touching at a foreign port, the Postmaster-General may allow as compensation, if by a United States steamship, any sum not exceeding the sea and United States inland postage; and if by a foreign steamship or by a sailing vessel, any sum not exceeding the sea postage on the mail so transported.

Compensa-
tion for trans-
portation of
foreign mails.
R. S., § 4009.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may impose fines on contractors for transporting the mail between the United States and any foreign country for any unreasonable or unnecessary delay in the departure of such mail or the performance of the trip; but the fine for any one default shall not exceed one-half the contract price for the trip.

Fines on con-
tractors for
foreign mails.
R. S., § 4010.

—maximum
amount of.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Every contract for transporting the mail between the United States and any foreign country shall contain, besides the usual stipulation for the right of the Postmaster-General to discontinue the same, the further stipulation that it may be terminated by Congress.

Discontin-
uance of for-
eign mail
transportation
contracts.

R. S., § 4011.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may, by and with the advice and consent of the President, make any arrangements which may be deemed just and expedient for allowing the mails of Canada or any other country adjoining the United States to be transported over the territory of the United States from one point in such country to any other point in the same at the expense of the country to which the mail belongs upon obtaining a like privilege for the transportation of the United States mail through the

Transporta-
tion through
United States
of mails of
Canada and
countries ad-
joining the
United States.
R. S., § 4012.

Withdrawal
of privilege.

country to which the privilege is granted; but such privilege may at any time be annulled by the President or Congress from and after one month succeeding the day on which notice of the act of the President or Congress is given to the chief executive or head of the post-office department of the country whose privilege is to be annulled.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Foreign
mails while in
transit across
territory of
United States.

R. S., § 4013.
—to be deemed
mail of United
States.

—punishment
of offense
against.

Every foreign mail shall, while being transported across the territory of the United States under the provisions of the preceding section (R. S., § 4012), be deemed and taken to be a mail of the United States, so far as to make any violation thereof, or depredation thereon, or offense in respect thereto, or any part thereof, an offense of the same grade, and punishable in the same manner and to the same extent as though the mail was a mail of the United States; and in any indictment for any such offense, the mail, or any part thereof, may be alleged to be, and on the trial of any such indictment it shall be deemed and held to be, a mail or part of a mail of the United States.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Consuls may
pay foreign
postage in cer-
tain cases on
matter for
United States
detained at for-
eign ports for
want of post-
age.

R. S., § 4014.

The Postmaster-General or the Secretary of State is hereby authorized to empower the consuls of the United States to pay the foreign postage on such letters destined for the United States as may be detained at the ports of foreign countries for the nonpayment of postage, which postage shall be by the consul marked as paid by him, and the amount thereof shall be collected in the United States as other postage, on the delivery of the letters, and repaid to said consul, or credited on his account at the State Department.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Retaliatory
postage on cer-
tain foreign
matter.

R. S., § 4015.

—when may be
imposed.

The Postmaster-General, under the direction of the President of the United States, is hereby authorized and empowered to charge upon, and collect from, all letters and other mailable matter carried to and from any port of the United States, in any foreign packet ship or other vessel, the same rate or rates of charge for American postage which the government to which such foreign packet or other vessel belongs imposes upon letters and other mailable matter conveyed to or from such foreign country in American packets or other vessels as the postage of such government, and at any time to revoke the same; and all custom-house officers and other United States agents designated or appointed for that purpose shall enforce or carry into effect the foregoing provision, and aid or assist in the collection of such postage, and to that end it shall be lawful for such officers and agents, on suspicion of fraud, to open and examine, in the presence of two or more respectable persons, being citizens of the United States, any package or packages supposed to contain mailable matter found on board such packets or other vessels or elsewhere, and to prevent, if necessary, such packets or other vessels from entering, breaking bulk, or making clearance until such letters or other mailable matter are duly delivered into the United States post-office.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Authority to
open packages,
when.

All letters or other mailable matter conveyed to or from any part of the United States by any foreign vessel, except such sealed letters, relating to such vessel, or any part of the cargo thereof, as may be directed to the owners or consignees of the vessel, shall be subject to postage-charge, whether addressed to any person in the United States or elsewhere, provided they are conveyed by the packet or other ship of a foreign country imposing postage on letters or mailable matter conveyed to or from such country by any vessel of the United States; and such letters or other mailable matter carried in foreign vessels, except such sealed letters, relating to the vessel, or any part of the cargo thereof, as may be directed to the owners or consignees, shall be delivered into the United States post-office by the master of such vessel when arriving, and be taken from a United States post-office when departing, and the postage paid thereon, justly chargeable by this Title [XLVI, R. S.], and for refusing or failing to do so, or for conveying such letters or any letters intended to be conveyed in any vessel of such foreign country over or across the United States, or any portion thereof, the party offending shall be punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars for each offense.

Foreign vessels carrying mail to or from U. S. R. S., § 4016.

Postage to be paid, when.

Mail, how treated on arrival, etc.

Penalty for violation of statute.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may employ two special agents for the Pacific coast, and such number of other special agents as the good of the service and the safety of the mail may require. Such agents shall be entitled to a salary at the rate of not more than one thousand six hundred dollars a year each, and shall each be allowed for traveling and incidental expenses, while actually employed in the service, a sum not exceeding five dollars a day.

R. S., § 4017.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Whenever a special agent is required to collect or disburse any public money, he shall, before entering upon such duty, give bond in such sum and form, and with such security as the Postmaster-General may approve.

Bonds of inspectors. R. S., § 4018. —when must be given.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may employ, when the service requires it, the Assistant Postmasters-General and superintendents in his Department as special agents; and he may allow them therefor not exceeding the amount expended by them as necessary traveling expenses while so employed.

Department officers may be inspectors. R. S., § 4019. —expenses of.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may establish resident mail agencies at the ports of Panama and Aspinwall, in New Granada; Havana, in Cuba; at St. Thomas, and at such other foreign ports at which United States mail steamers touch to land and receive mails as may, in his judgment, promote the efficiency of the foreign mail service; and may pay the agents employed by him at such ports, out of the appropriation for transportation of the mail, a reasonable compensation for their services, and the necessary expenses

Agencies in foreign countries. R. S., § 4021.

Agents.

—expenses of.

for office rent, clerk hire, office furniture, and other incidentals, to be allowed him at each of such agencies.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Agents on
ocean steamers.
R. S., § 4022.
—on what
routes.

The Postmaster-General may appoint an agent in charge of the mail on board of each of the mail steamers on the routes between San Francisco, Japan, and China; between San Francisco and Honolulu, in the Hawaiian Islands, and between New York and Rio Janeiro, who shall be allowed, out of the appropriation for transportation of the mail, a salary of two thousand dollars a year.

—compensa-
tion of.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Agency in
China or Ja-
pan.
R. S., § 4023.
—branches of.

The Postmaster-General may establish, in connection with the mail-steamship service to Japan and China, a general postal agency at Shanghai, in China, or at Yokohama, in Japan, with such branch agencies at any other ports in China and Japan as he shall deem necessary for the prompt and efficient management of the postal service in those countries; and he may pay the postal agents employed thereat a reasonable compensation for their services, in addition to the necessary expenses for rent, furniture, clerk hire, and incidental expenses.

Agents.
—expenses of.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Postal clerks,
appointment
of.
R. S., § 4025.

The Postmaster-General may appoint clerks for the purpose of assorting and distributing the mail in railway post-offices, each of whom shall be paid, out of the appropriation for transportation of the mail, a salary at the rate of not more than one thousand four hundred dollars a year each to the head clerks, nor more than one thousand two hundred dollars a year each to the other clerks.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Officers of
Post-Office De-
partment may
be specially au-
thorized to
make searches.
R. S., § 4026.
—of any car
or vehicle.

The Postmaster-General may, by a letter of authorization under his hand, to be filed among the records of his Department, empower any special agent or other officer of the Post-Office Establishment to make searches for mailable matter transported in violation of law; and the agent or officer so authorized may open and search any car or vehicle passing, or having lately before passed, from any place at which there is a post-office of the United States to any other such place, or any box, package, or packet, being, or having lately before been, in such car or vehicle, or any store or house, other than a dwelling house, used or occupied by any common carrier or transportation company, in which such box, package, or packet may be contained, whenever such agent or officer has reason to believe that mailable matter, transported contrary to law, may therein be found.

—of store or
building.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Authority
for establish-
ment of money-
order system.
R. S., § 4027.

To promote public convenience, and to insure greater security in the transfer of money through the mail, the Postmaster-General may establish and maintain, under such rules and regulations as he may deem expedient, a uniform money-order system, at all suitable post-offices, which shall be designated as "money-order offices."

"Money-
order offices."

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may conclude arrangements with the post departments of foreign governments, with which postal conventions have been, or may be, concluded, for the exchange, by means of postal orders, of small sums of money, not exceeding fifty dollars in amount, at such rates of exchange, and compensation to postmasters, and under such rules and regulations as he may deem expedient; and the expenses of establishing and conducting such system of exchange may be paid out of the proceeds of the money-order business.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The postmaster of every city where branch post-offices or stations are established and in operation, subject to his supervision, is authorized, under the direction of the Postmaster-General, to issue, or to cause to be issued, by any of his assistants or clerks in charge of branch post-offices or stations, postal money orders, payable at his own or at any other money-order office, or at any branch post-office or station of his own, or of any other money-order office, as the remitters thereof may direct; and the postmaster and his sureties shall, in every case, be held accountable upon his official bond for all moneys received by him or his designated assistants or clerks in charge of stations, from the issue of money orders, and for all moneys which may come into his or their hands, or be placed in his or their custody by reason of the transaction by them of money-order business.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any postmaster who issues a money order without having previously received the money therefor shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be fined not less than fifty nor more than five hundred dollars.

Approved June 8, 1872.

In case of the sickness or unavoidable absence from his office of the postmaster of any money-order post-office, he may, with the approval of the Postmaster-General, authorize the chief clerk, or some other clerk employed therein, to act in his place, and to discharge all the duties required by law of such postmaster; and the official bond given by the principal of the office shall be held to cover and apply to the acts of the person appointed to act in his place in such cases; and such acting officer shall, for the time being, be subject to all the liabilities and penalties prescribed by law for the official misconduct in like cases of the postmaster for whom he shall act.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General shall supply money-order offices with blank forms of application for money orders, which each applicant shall fill up with his name, the name and address of the party to whom the order is to be paid, the amount and the date of application; and all such applications shall be preserved by the postmaster receiving them for such time as the Postmaster-General may prescribe.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Foreign money - order exchanges.
R. S., § 4028.

Issue of money orders at branch offices.
R. S., § 4029.

—accountability for moneys received from.

Issuing money orders on credit.
R. S., § 4030.
—penalty.

Performance of duties during absence of postmaster.
R. S., § 4031.
—at money-order offices.

Liability of postmaster.

Blank applications for money orders.
R. S., § 4033.

Special forms for money orders. The Postmaster-General shall furnish money-order offices with printed or engraved forms for money orders, and no order shall be valid unless it be drawn upon such form.

R. S., § 4034.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Advices—original. The postmaster issuing a money order shall send a notice thereof by mail, without delay, to the postmaster on whom it is drawn.

R. S., § 4035.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Money order valid one year. No money order shall be valid and payable unless presented to the postmaster on whom it is drawn within one year after its date; but the Postmaster-General, on the application of the remitter or payee of any such order, may cause a new order to be issued in lieu thereof.

R. S., § 4036.

New order may be issued thereafter.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Changes or modification of money orders after issue. After a money order has been issued, if the purchaser desires to have it modified or changed, the postmaster who issued the order shall take it back and issue another in lieu of it, for which a new fee shall be exacted.

R. S., § 4038.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Repayment upon application of remitter. The postmaster issuing a money order shall repay the amount of it upon the application of the person who obtained it, and the return of the order; but the fee paid for it shall not be returned.

R. S., § 4039.

Fee not to be returned.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Replacing lost money order. Whenever a money order has been lost, the Postmaster-General, upon the application of the remitter or payee of such order, may cause a duplicate thereof to be issued, without charge, providing the party losing the original shall furnish a certificate from the postmaster by whom it was payable that it has not been, and will not thereafter be paid; and a similar certificate from the postmaster by whom it was issued that it has not been and will not thereafter be repaid.

R. S., § 4040.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Money orders to lotteries, etc., payment of, may be suspended. The Postmaster-General may, upon evidence satisfactory to him that any person is engaged in conducting any fraudulent lottery, gift enterprise, or scheme for the distribution of money, or of any real or personal property, by lot, chance, or drawing of any kind, or in conducting any other scheme or device for obtaining money through the mails by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, forbid the payment, by any postmaster, to any such person of any postal money order drawn to his order or in his favor, and may provide by regulations for the return, to the remitter, of the sums named in such money orders. But this shall not authorize any person to open any letter not addressed to himself.

R. S., § 4041.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Payments and transfers of money-order funds. All payments and transfers to and from money-order offices shall be under the direction of the Postmaster-General. He may transfer money-order funds from one postmaster to another, and from

R. S., § 4042.

the postal revenue to the money-order funds, and he may transfer money-order funds to creditors of the Department, to be replaced by equivalent transfers from the postal revenues.

—to be under direction of Postmaster-General.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may transfer to the postmaster at any money-order office, by warrant on the Treasury, countersigned by the Sixth Auditor, and payable out of the postal revenues, such sum as may be required over and above the current revenues at his office to pay the money orders drawn upon him.

Transfers by warrant from postal revenues to money-order account.

R. S., § 4043

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General shall require each postmaster at a money-order office to render to the Post-Office Department weekly, semiweekly, or daily accounts of all money orders issued and paid; of all fees received for issuing them; of all transfers and payments made from money-order funds; and of all money received to be used for the payment of money orders or on account of money-order business.

Money-order funds, report of.

R. S., § 4044.

Approved June 8, 1872.

All money received for the sale of money orders, including all fees thereon, all money transferred from the postal revenues to the money-order funds, all money transferred or paid from the money-order funds to the service of the Post-Office Department, and all money-order funds transferred from one postmaster to another, shall be deemed and taken to be money-order funds and money in the Treasury of the United States. And it shall be the duty of the assistant treasurer of the United States to open, at the request of the Postmaster-General, an account of "money-order funds" deposited by postmasters to the credit of the Postmaster-General and of drafts against the amount so deposited, drawn by him and countersigned by the Sixth Auditor.

Money-order funds.

R. S., § 4045.

—to be considered money in the Treasury.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Postmasters at money-order offices may be allowed, as compensation for issuing and paying money orders, not exceeding one-third of the whole amount of fees collected on orders issued, and one-fourth of one per centum on the gross amount of orders paid at their respective offices, provided such compensation, together with the postmaster's salary, shall not exceed four thousand dollars per annum, except in the case of the postmaster at New York City.

Money-order business—compensation to postmasters.

R. S., § 4047.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The accounts of the postal service shall be kept in such a manner as to exhibit separately the amount of revenue derived from the following sources respectively:

Manner of keeping accounts.

R. S., § 4049.

First. Letter postage.

Second. Book, newspaper, and pamphlet postage.

Third. Registered letters.

Fourth. Box rents and branch offices.

Fifth. Postage-stamps and envelopes.

—what to exhibit.

Sixth. Dead letters.

Seventh. Fines and penalties.

Eighth. Revenue from money-order business.

Ninth. Miscellaneous.

And they shall exhibit separately the amount of expenditure made for each of the following subjects, respectively :

First. Transportation of the mail.

Second. Compensation of postmasters.

Third. Compensation of letter carriers.

Fourth. Compensation for clerks for post-offices.

Fifth. Compensation for blank agents and assistants.

Sixth. Mail depredations and special agents.

Seventh. Postage stamps and envelopes.

Eighth. Ship, steamboat, and way letters.

Ninth. Dead letters.

Tenth. Mail bags.

Eleventh. Mail locks and keys.

Twelfth. Post marking and canceling stamps.

Thirteenth. Wrapping paper.

Fourteenth. Twine.

Fifteenth. Letter balances.

Sixteenth. Office furniture.

Seventeenth. Advertising.

Eighteenth. Balances for foreign countries.

Nineteenth. Rent, light, and fuel for post-offices.

Twentieth. Stationery.

Twenty-first. Miscellaneous.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Miscellaneous receipts.

R. S., § 4050.
—from dead letters.

—money stolen from mails recovered.

—fines and penalties.

—waste paper and material.

Unclaimed money in dead letters for which no owner can be found; all money taken from the mail by robbery, theft, or otherwise, which may come into the hands of any agent or employee of the United States, or any other person whatever; all fines and penalties imposed for any violation of the postal laws, except such part as may by law belong to the informer or party prosecuting for the same; and all money derived from the sale of waste paper or other public property of the Post-Office Department shall be deposited in the Treasury, under the direction of the Postmaster-General, as part of the postal revenue. And the Postmaster-General shall cause to be placed to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, for the service of the Post-Office Department, the net proceeds of the money-order business; and the receipts of the Post-Office Department derived from this source during each quarter shall be entered by the Sixth Auditor in the accounts of such Department, under the head of "revenue from money-order business."

Approved June 8, 1872.

Receipts at post-offices.

R. S., § 4051.
—postmasters accountable for.

All postages, box rents, and other receipts at post-offices shall be accounted for as part of the postal revenues; and each postmaster shall be charged with and held accountable for any part of the same, accruing at his office, which he has neglected to collect, the same as if he had collected it.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Postmasters may allow box holders who desire to do so to provide lock-boxes or drawers for their own use, at their own expense, which lock-boxes or drawers, upon their erection in any post-office, shall become the property of the United States, and be subject to the direction and control of the Post-Office Department, and shall pay a rental at least equal to that of other boxes in the same office, or, if there be no other boxes in such office, of boxes in other offices of the same class, which rental shall be accounted for as other box rents.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any officer, agent, postmaster, clerk, or other person employed in any branch of the postal service having temporary custody of any money taken from dead letters; any money derived from the sale of waste paper or other public property of the Post-Office Department; or any money derived from any other source which by law is part of the postal revenues, who shall willfully neglect to deposit the same in the Treasury of the United States, or in some other depository authorized to receive the same, shall be deemed guilty of embezzlement, and be punishable by a fine of not more than double the sum so retained, or by imprisonment for not more than three years, or both. And any person intrusted by law with the sale of postage stamps or stamped envelopes, who shall refuse or neglect to account for the same, or who shall pledge or hypothecate or unlawfully dispose of them, for any purpose whatever, shall be deemed guilty of embezzlement, and shall be punishable by the like fine and imprisonment as are provided in this section for the embezzlement of money.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The money required for the postal service in each year shall be appropriated by law out of the revenues of the service.

Approved June 8, 1872.

All payments on account of the postal service shall be made to persons to whom the same shall be certified to be due by the Sixth Auditor, but advances of necessary sums to defray expenses may be made by the Postmaster-General to agents employed to investigate mail depredations, examine post routes and offices, and on other like services, to be charged to them by the Auditor, and to be accounted for in the settlement of their accounts.

Approved June 8, 1872.

The Postmaster-General may transfer debts due to the Department from postmasters and others to such contractors as have given bonds, with security, to refund any money that may come into their hands over and above the amount found due them on the settlement of their accounts; but such transfers shall only be in satisfaction of legal demands for which appropriations have been made.

NOTE.—The practice authorized by this section is no longer pursued, contractors being paid directly by warrant.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Lock boxes may be erected in post-offices by patrons.
R. S., § 4052.
—to become property of United States.
—rent therefor.

Failure to deposit postal revenues.
R. S., § 4053.

—penalty.

Failure to account for, and improper sales of, stamps, etc.

—penalty.

Appropriations out of revenues.
R. S., § 4054.

Payments to be on certificate of Auditor.
R. S., § 4055.

Advances to post-office inspectors.
—other agents.
—how accounted for.

Payment of contractors by transfer of balances due from postmasters.
R. S., § 4056.

Fraudulent and improper payments.

R. S., § 4057.
—for service not performed.

—made upon fraudulent representations, mistakes, etc.

—Postmaster-General to bring suit to recover.

In all cases where money has been paid out of the funds of the Post-Office Department under the pretense that service has been performed therefor, when, in fact, such service has not been performed, or as additional allowance for increased service actually rendered, when the additional allowance exceeds the sum which, according to law, might rightfully have been allowed therefor, and in all other cases where money of the Department has been paid to any person in consequence of fraudulent representations, or by the mistake, collusion, or misconduct of any officer or other employee in the postal service, the Postmaster-General shall cause suit to be brought to recover such wrong or fraudulent payment or excess, with interest thereon.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Stolen money or property received at Department.

R. S., § 4058.
—may be delivered to owner.

Whenever the Postmaster-General is satisfied that money or property stolen from the mail, or the proceeds thereof, has been received at the Department, he may, upon satisfactory evidence as to the owner, deliver the same to him.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Recovery of penalties and forfeitures.

R. S., § 4059.
—by action, how disposed of.

All penalties and forfeitures imposed for any violation of law affecting the Post-Office Department for its revenue or property shall be recoverable, one half to the use of the person informing and prosecuting for the same and the other half to be paid into the Treasury for the use of the Post-Office Department, unless a different disposal is expressly prescribed. All fines collected for violations of such laws shall be paid into the Treasury for the use of the Post-Office Department.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Accounts of postmasters to be preserved two years.

R. S., § 4060.

The Postmaster-General may dispose of any quarterly returns of mails sent or received, preserving the accounts current and all accompanying vouchers, and use such portions of the proceeds as may be necessary to defray the cost of separating and disposing of them; but the accounts shall be preserved entire for at least two years.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Disposal of unclaimed printed matter.

R. S., § 4061.
regulations as to.

The Postmaster-General may provide, by regulations, for disposing of printed and mailable matter which may remain in any post-office, or in the Department, not called for by the party addressed; but if the publisher of any refused or uncalled-for newspaper or other periodical shall pay the postage due thereon, such newspaper or other periodical shall be excepted from the operation of such regulations.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Money orders, forging of.

R. S., § 5463.

Any person who shall, with intent to defraud, falsely make, forge, counterfeit, engrave, or print, or cause or procure to be falsely made, forged, counterfeited, engraved, or printed, or willingly aid or assist in falsely making, forging, counterfeiting, engraving, or printing any order in imitation of or purporting to be a money order issued by the Post-Office Department or any of its postmasters or agents, or any material signature or indorsement thereon; any person who shall falsely alter, or cause

or procure to be altered, or willingly aid or assist in falsely altering any such money order; any person who shall, with intent to defraud, pass, utter, or publish, or attempt to pass, utter, or publish as true any such false, forged, counterfeited, or altered money order, knowing the same, or any signature or indorsement thereon, to be false, forged, counterfeited, or altered, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars or by imprisonment at hard labor for not less than two years and not more than five years. —penalty.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any person who shall forge or counterfeit any postage stamp, or any stamp printed upon any stamped envelope, postal card, or any die, plate, or engraving therefor; any person who shall make, or print, or knowingly use or sell, or have in possession, with intent to use or sell, any such forged or counterfeited postage stamp, stamped envelope, postal card, die, plate, or engraving; any person who shall make, or knowingly use or sell, or have in possession, with intent to use or sell, any paper bearing the watermark of any stamped envelope, postal card, or any fraudulent imitation thereof; any person who shall make or print, or authorize or procure to be made or printed, any postage stamp, stamped envelope, or postal card, of the kind authorized and provided by the Post-Office Department, without the special authority and direction of the Department; any person who shall, after such postage stamp, stamped envelope, or postal card have been printed, and with intent to defraud the postal revenue, deliver the same to any person not authorized by an instrument of writing, duly executed under the hand of the Postmaster-General and the seal of the Post-Office Department, to receive them, shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment at hard labor not more than five years, or by both such fine and imprisonment. —penalty.

Forging or counterfeiting postage stamps, dies, etc.
R. S., § 5464.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any person who shall forge or counterfeit or knowingly utter or use any forged or counterfeited postage stamp of any foreign Government shall be punished by imprisonment at hard labor of not less than two nor more than ten years. —penalty.

Forging or counterfeiting foreign postage stamps.
R. S., § 5465.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any person who shall willfully or maliciously injure, deface, or destroy any mail matter deposited in any letter box, pillar box, or other receptacle established by authority of the Postmaster-General for the safe deposit of matter for the mail or for delivery, or who shall willfully aid or assist in injuring such mail matter, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than three years. —penalty.

Injuring mail matter in letter boxes, etc.
R. S., § 5466.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any person employed in any department of the postal service who shall secrete, embezzle, or destroy any letter, packet, bag, or mail of letters intrusted to him, or which shall come into his possession, and which was intended to be conveyed by mail, or carried or delivered by any mail carrier, mail messenger, route

Embezzlement by persons in postal service of letters containing valuable inclosures.
R. S., § 5467.

agent, letter carrier, or other person employed in any department of the postal service, or forwarded through or delivered from any post-office or branch post-office established by authority of the Postmaster-General, and which shall contain any note, bond, draft, check, warrant, revenue stamp, postage stamp, stamped envelope, postal card, money order, certificate of stock, or other pecuniary obligation or security of the Government, or of any officer or fiscal agent thereof, of any description whatever; any bank note, bank post bill, bill of exchange, or note of assignment of stock in the funds; any letter of attorney for receiving annuities or dividends, selling stock in the funds, or collecting the interest thereof; any letter of credit, note, bond, warrant, draft, bill, promissory note, covenant, contract, or agreement whatsoever, for or relating to the payment of money, or the delivery of any article of value, or the performance of any act, matter, or thing; any receipt, release, acquittance, or discharge of or from any debt, covenant, or demand, or any part thereof; any copy of the record of any judgment or decree in any court of law or chancery or any execution which may have issued thereon; any copy of any other record, or any other article of value, or writing representing the same; any such person who shall steal or take any of the things aforesaid out of any letter, packet, bag, or mail of letters which shall have come into his possession, either in the regular course of his official duties or in any other manner whatever, and provided the same shall not have been delivered to the party to whom it is directed, shall be punishable by imprisonment at hard labor for not less than one year nor more than five years.

—penalty.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Meaning of
"intended to
be conveyed by
mail."

R. S., § 5468.

The fact that any letter, packet, bag, or mail of letters has been deposited in any post-office or branch post-office established by authority of the Postmaster-General, or in any other authorized depository for mail matter, or in charge of any postmaster, assistant clerk, carrier, agent, or messenger employed in any department of the postal service, shall be evidence that the same was "intended to be conveyed by mail" within the meaning of the two preceding sections. (Sec. 5466 and 5467, R. S.)

Approved June 8, 1872.

Stealing or
fraudulently
obtaining mail
matter.

R. S., § 5469.

Any person who shall steal the mail, or steal or take from or out of any mail or post-office, branch post-office, or other authorized depository for mail-matter, any letter or packet; any person who shall take the mail, or any letter or packet therefrom, or from any post-office, branch post-office, or other authorized depository for mail-matter, with or without the consent of the person having custody thereof, and open, embezzle, or destroy any such mail, letter, or package which shall contain any note, bond, draft, check, warrant, revenue stamp, postage-stamp, stamped envelope, money order, certificate of stock, or other pecuniary obligation or security of the Government, or of any officer or fiscal agent thereof, of any description whatever; any bank-note, bank post-bill, bill of exchange, or note of assignment of stock in the funds; any letter of attorney for receiving annuities or dividends, selling stock in the funds, or collecting the interest thereof; any letter of credit, note, bond, warrant, draft, bill, promissory note, cove-

Opening and
embezzlement
of mail, etc.

naut, contract, or agreement whatsoever, for or relating to the payment or the delivery of any article of value, or the performance of any act, matter, or thing; any receipt, release, acquittance, or discharge of or from any debt, covenant, or demand, or any part thereof; any copy of record of any judgment or decree in any court of law or chancery, or any execution which may have issued thereon; any copy of any other record, or any other article of value, or any writing representing the same; any person who shall, by fraud or deception, obtain, from any person having custody thereof, any such mail, letter, or packet containing any such article of value shall, although not employed in the postal service, be punishable by imprisonment at hard labor for not less than one year and not more than five years. —penalty.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any person who shall buy, receive, or conceal, or aid in buying, receiving, or concealing, any note, bond, draft, check, warrant, revenue stamp, postage stamp, stamped envelope, postal card, money order, certificate of stock, or other pecuniary obligation or security of the Government, or of any officer or fiscal agent thereof, of any description whatever; any bank note, bank post bill, bill of exchange, or note of assignment of stock in the funds; any letter of attorney for receiving annuities or dividends, selling stock in the funds, or collecting the interest thereof, any letter of credit, note, bond, warrant, draft, bill, promissory note, covenant, contract, or agreement whatsoever, for or relating to the payment of money or the delivery of any article of value, or the performance of any act, matter, or thing; any receipt, release, acquittal, or discharge of or from any debt, covenant, or demand, or any part thereof; any copy of the record of any judgment or decree in any court of law or chancery, or any execution which may have issued thereon; any copy of any other record, or any other article of value or writing representing the same, knowing any such article or thing to have been stolen or embezzled from the mail, or out of any post-office, branch post-office, or other authorized depository for mail matter, or from any person having custody thereof, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than two thousand dollars, and by imprisonment at hard labor for not more than five years. —penalty.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any person employed in any department of the postal service who shall improperly detain, delay, embezzle, or destroy any newspaper, or permit any other person to detain, delay, embezzle, or destroy the same, or open, or permit any other person to open, any mail or package of newspapers not directed to the office where he is employed, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than fifty dollars. And if any other person shall open, embezzle, or destroy any mail or package of newspapers not being directed to him, and he not being authorized to open or receive the same, he shall be punishable by a fine of not more than twenty dollars. And any person who shall take or steal any mail or package of newspapers from any post-office, or from any person having custody thereof, shall be imprisoned at hard labor for not more than three months. —penalty.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Receiving articles stolen from the mails.
R. S., § 5470.

Stealing, detaining, or destroying newspapers.
R. S., § 5471.

Robbery of the mail. Any person who shall rob any carrier, agent, or other person intrusted with the mail, of such mail, or any part thereof, shall be punishable by imprisonment at hard labor for not less than five years and not more than ten years; and if convicted a second time of a like offense, or if, in effecting such robbery the first time, the robber shall wound the person having custody of the mail, or put his life in jeopardy by the use of dangerous weapons, such offender shall be punishable by imprisonment at hard labor for the term of his natural life.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Attempting to rob the mail. Any person who shall attempt to rob the mail by assaulting the person having custody thereof, shooting at him or his horse, or threatening him with dangerous weapons, and shall not effect such robbery, shall be punishable by imprisonment at hard labor for not less than two years and not more than ten years.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Deserting the mail. Any person who shall have taken charge of the mail and shall voluntarily quit or desert the same before he has delivered it into the post-office at the termination of the route, or to some known mail carrier, messenger, agent, or other employé of the Post-Office Department authorized to receive the same, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars and by imprisonment for not less than three months nor more than one year.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Stealing, embezzling, or carrying away post-office property. Any person who shall steal, purloin, or embezzle any mail bag or other property in use by or belonging to the Post-Office Department, or who shall, for any lucre, gain, or convenience, appropriate any such property to his own or any other than its proper use, or who shall, for any lucre or gain, convey away any such property to the hindrance or detriment of the public service; if the value of the property be twenty-five dollars or more, the offender shall be punishable by imprisonment at hard labor for not more than three years, and if the value of the property be less than twenty-five dollars, the offender shall be punishable by imprisonment for not more than one year, or by a fine of not less than ten dollars and not more than two hundred dollars.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Injuring mail bags, locks, etc. Any person who shall tear, cut, or otherwise injure any mail bag, pouch, or other thing used or designed for use in the conveyance of the mail, or who shall draw or break any staple, or loosen any part of any lock, chain, or strap attached thereto, with intent to rob or steal any such mail, or to render the same insecure, shall be punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars and not more than five hundred, or by imprisonment at hard labor for not less than one year and not more than three years.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Stealing, embezzling, or forging of mail locks and keys. Any person who shall steal, purloin, embezzle, or obtain by any false pretense, or shall aid or assist in stealing, purloining, embezzling, or obtaining by any false pretense, any key suited to any

lock adopted by the Post-Office Department, and in use on any of the mails or bags thereof; any person who shall knowingly and unlawfully make, forge, or counterfeit, or cause to be unlawfully made, forged, or counterfeited, or knowingly aid or assist in making, forging, or counterfeiting, any such key; any person who shall have in his possession any such mail lock or key, with the intent unlawfully or improperly to use, sell, or otherwise dispose of the same, or to cause the same to be unlawfully or improperly used, sold, or otherwise disposed of; or any person engaged as contractor or otherwise in the manufacture of any such mail locks or keys who shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, any finished or unfinished lock or key used or designed for use by the Department, or the interior part of any such lock, to any person not duly authorized, under the hand of the Postmaster-General and the seal of the Post-Office Department, to receive the same, unless the person receiving is the contractor for furnishing the same, or engaged in the manufacture thereof in the manner authorized by the contract, or the agent for such manufacturer, shall be punishable by imprisonment at hard labor for not more than ten years. —penalty.

Delivery of
keys or locks
to unauthorized
persons.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Any person who shall forcibly break into, or attempt to break into any post-office, or any building used in whole or in part as a post-office, with intent to commit therein larceny or other depredation, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, and by imprisonment at hard labor for not more than five years.

Breaking in-
to and entering
post-office.
R. S., § 5478.

—penalty.

Approved June 8, 1872.

If any person shall falsely make, alter, forge, or counterfeit, or cause or procure to be falsely made, altered, forged, or counterfeited, or willingly aid or assist in the false making, altering, forging, or counterfeiting, any bond, bid, proposal, guarantee, security, official bond, public record, affidavits, or other writing for the purpose of defrauding the United States; or shall utter or publish as true, or cause to be uttered or published as true, any such false, forged, altered, or counterfeited bond, bid, proposal, guarantee, security, official bond, public record, affidavit, or other writing, for the purpose of defrauding the United States, knowing the same to be false, forged, altered or counterfeited; or shall transmit to or present at or cause [to] [or] procure to be transmitted to, or presented at, the office of any officer of the United States, any such false, forged, altered, or counterfeited bond, bid, proposal, guarantee, security, official bond, public record, affidavit, or other writing, knowing the same to be false, forged, altered, or counterfeited, for the purpose of defrauding the United States, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment at hard labor for not more than ten years or by both such punishments. (See R. S., § 5418.)

Counterfeit-
ing or altering
bonds, records,
etc.
R. S., § 5479.

Uttering,
publishing, and
presenting
counterfeited
or altered
bonds, etc.

—penalty.

Approved June 8, 1872.

If any person having devised or intending to devise any scheme or artifice to defraud, or be effected by either opening or intending to open correspondence or communication with any other person,

Fraudulent
schemes.
R. S. § 5480.

—penalty.

whether resident within or outside of the United States, by means of the Post-Office Establishment of the United States, or by inciting such other person to open communication with the person so devising or intending shall, in and for executing such scheme or artifice, or attempting so to do, place any letter or packet in any post-office of the United States, or take or receive any therefrom, such person, so misusing the Post-Office Establishment, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, and by imprisonment for not more than eighteen months, or by both such punishments. The indictment, information, or complaint may severally charge offenses to the number of three when committed within the same six calendar months; but the court thereupon shall give a single sentence and shall proportion the punishment especially to the degree in which the abuse of the Post-Office Establishment enters as an instrument into such fraudulent scheme and device.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Accessory to robbery of the mail.

R. S., § 5534.
—penalty.

Every accessory after the fact to any robbery of the carrier, agent, or other person intrusted with the mail, of such mail or of any part thereof, shall be fined not more than two thousand dollars and be imprisoned at hard labor not more than ten years.

Approved June 8, 1872.

Rates for Government telegrams over lines given certain privileges.

R. S., § 5266.
See 1892,
July 5, ch. 147,
27, Stat. L., 82.
Postmaster-General to fix.

Telegrams between the several departments of the Government and their officers and agents, in their transmission over the lines of any telegraph company to which has been given the right of way, timber, or station lands from the public domain, shall have priority over all other business, at such rates as the Postmaster-General shall annually fix. And no part of any appropriation for the several departments of the Government shall be paid to any company which neglects or refuses to transmit such telegrams in accordance with the provisions of this section.

Approved June 10, 1872.

Superintendent of free delivery.

R. S., § 394.

The Postmaster-General may designate one of the present fourth-class clerks to act as superintendent of free delivery in the Post-Office Department, at an annual salary of two thousand five hundred dollars: *Provided*, That the salary hereby fixed shall terminate at the end of the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-four.

Approved March 3, 1873.

Regular deposits in national banks.

R. S., § 3847.

—when may be made at risk of postmaster.

—interest on, not to be received.

—report of.

Any postmaster, having public money belonging to the Government, at an office within a county where there are no designated depositories, treasurers of mints, or Treasurer or assistant treasurers or the United States, may deposit the same, at his own risk and in his official capacity, in any national bank in the town, city, or county where the said postmaster resides; but no authority or permission is or shall be given for the demand or receipt by the postmaster, or any other person, of interest, directly or indirectly, on any deposit made as herein described; and every postmaster who makes any such deposit shall report quarterly to the Post-

master-General the name of the bank where such deposits have been made, and also state the amount which may stand at the time to his credit.

Approved March 3, 1873.

The Postmaster-General is authorized and directed to readjust the compensation hereafter to be paid for the transportation of mails on railroad routes upon the conditions and at the rates hereinafter mentioned:

Adjustment
of compensa-
tion; condi-
tions and
rates.
R. S., § 4002.
Conditions.

First. That the mails shall be conveyed with due frequency and speed; and that sufficient and suitable room, fixtures, and furniture, in a car or apartment properly lighted and warmed, shall be provided for route agents to accompany and distribute the mails.

Second. That the pay per mile per annum shall not exceed the following rates, namely: On routes carrying their whole length an average weight of mails per day of two hundred pounds, fifty dollars; five hundred pounds, seventy-five dollars; one thousand pounds, one hundred dollars; one thousand five hundred pounds, one hundred and twenty-five dollars; two thousand pounds, one hundred and fifty dollars; three thousand five hundred pounds, one hundred and seventy-five dollars; five thousand pounds, two hundred dollars, and twenty-five dollars additional for every additional two thousand pounds, the average weight to be ascertained, in every case, by the actual weighing of the mails for such a number of successive working days, not less than thirty, at such times, after June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-three, and not less frequently than once in every four years, and the result to be stated and verified in such form and manner as the Postmaster-General may direct.

Approved March 3, 1873.

Additional pay may be allowed for every line comprising a daily trip each way of railway post-office cars, at a rate not exceeding twenty-five dollars per mile per annum for cars forty feet in length; and thirty dollars per mile per annum for forty-five-foot cars; and forty dollars per mile per annum for fifty-foot cars; and fifty dollars per mile per annum for fifty-five to sixty-foot cars.

Additional
pay for rail-
way post-office
lines.
R. S., § 4004.
—rates of.

Approved March 3, 1873.

Every postmaster, assistant, clerk, or other person employed in or connected with the business or operations of any money-order office who converts to his own use, in any way whatever, or loans, or deposits in any bank, except as authorized by this Title (XLVI, R. S.), or exchanges for other funds, any portion of the money-order funds, shall be deemed guilty of embezzlement; and any such person, as well as every other person advising or participating therein, shall, for every such offense, be imprisoned for not less than six months nor more than ten years, and be fined in a sum equal to the amount embezzled; and any failure to pay over or produce any money-order funds intrusted to such person shall be taken to be *prima facie* evidence of embezzlement; and upon the trial of any indictment against any person for such embezzlement,

Embezzle-
ment of money-
order funds.
R. S., § 4046.*

—penalty.

—what consti-
tutes.

it shall be *prima facie* evidence of a balance against him to produce a transcript from the money-order account books of the Sixth Auditor.

Deposits in national banks designated by Secretary of Treasury.

R. S., § 4046.

But nothing herein contained shall be construed to prohibit any postmaster depositing, under the direction of the Postmaster-General, in a national bank designated by the Secretary of the Treasury for that purpose, to his own credit as postmaster, any money-order or other funds in his charge, nor prevent his negotiating drafts or other evidences of debt through such bank, or through United States disbursing officers, or otherwise, when instructed or required to do so by the Postmaster-General, for the purpose of remitting surplus money-order funds from one post-office to another, to be used in payment of money orders. Disbursing officers of the United States shall issue, under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, duplicates of lost checks drawn by them in favor of any postmaster on account of money-order or other public funds received by them from some other postmaster.

Use of drafts, etc., in remitting funds.

Duplicates of lost checks, how issued.

Approved March 3, 1873.

Payments to be withheld on account of interest on bonds issued by U. S. to aid railroads.

R. S., § 5260.

The Secretary of the Treasury is directed to withhold all payments to any railroad company and its assigns, on account of freights or transportation over their respective roads of any kind, to the amount of payments made by the United States for interest upon bonds of the United States issued to any such company, and which shall not have been reimbursed, together with the five per centum of net earnings due and unapplied, as provided by law.

Approved March 3, 1873.

When reports are to be made.

R. S., § 195.

Except where a different time is expressly prescribed by law, the various annual reports required to be submitted to Congress by the heads of Departments shall be made at the commencement of each regular session, and shall embrace the transactions of the preceding year.

Approved December 1, 1873.

Oath of office, postal employees.

R. S., § 391.

Before entering upon the duties of his office, and before he shall receive any salary, the Postmaster-General and each of the persons employed in the postal service shall, respectively, take and subscribe, before some magistrate or other competent officer, the following oath: "I, A. B., do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully perform all the duties required of me and abstain from everything forbidden by the laws in relation to the establishment of post-offices and post-roads within the United States; and that I will honestly and truly account for and pay over any money belonging to the said United States which may come into my possession or control: So help me God." (See Act June 8, 1872, ch. 335, Sec. 15, 17 Stat., 287.)

Approved March 5, 1874.

Oath of office, special, as employed in postal service. 1874, Mar. 5, ch. 46; 1 Supp. 5.

Before entering upon the duties, and before they shall receive any salary, the Postmaster-General, and all persons employed in the postal service, shall respectively take and subscribe before some magistrate or other competent officer authorized to administer oaths by the laws of the United States, or of any State or Territory, the following oath or affirmation.

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully perform all the duties required of me and abstain from everything forbidden by the laws in relation to the establishment of post-offices and post-roads within the United States; and that I will honestly and truly account for and pay over any money belonging to the said United States which may come into my possession or control; and I also further swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States. So help me God.

Approved March 5, 1874.

(The) oath (of office) or affirmation (required by the act of March 5, 1874) may be taken before any officer, civil or military, holding a commission under the United States, and such officer is hereby authorized to administer and certify such oath or affirmation.

Approved March 5, 1874.

The commissions of all postmasters appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall be made out and recorded in the Post-Office Department, and shall be under the seal of said Department, and countersigned by the Postmaster-General, any laws to the contrary notwithstanding: *Provided*, That the said seal shall not be affixed to any such commission until after the same shall have been signed by the President of the United States.

Approved March 18, 1874.

That the resolution approved January thirty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, entitled "A resolution limiting contracts for stationery and other supplies in the Executive Departments to one year," shall not be held, or construed, to apply to, or include, mail bags, mail locks and keys, postal cards, postage stamps, newspaper wrappers, or stamped envelopes.

Approved March 24, 1874.

No civil officer of the Government shall hereafter receive any compensation or perquisites, directly or indirectly, from the Treasury or property of the United States beyond his salary or compensation allowed by law.

Approved June 20, 1874.

* * * The Secretary of the Treasury shall cause all unexpended balances of appropriations which shall have remained upon the books of the Treasury for two fiscal years to be carried to the surplus fund and covered into the Treasury. * * *

Approved June 20, 1874.

All purchases and contracts for supplies or services, in any of the Departments of the Government, except for personal services, shall be made by advertising a sufficient time previously for proposals respecting the same, when the public exigencies do not require the immediate delivery of the articles, or performance of the service. When immediate delivery or performance is required by the public exigency, the articles or service required may be procured by open purchase or contract, at the places and in the

Oath.
—special.
1874, Mar. 5,
ch. 46; 1 Supp.,
5.

Issue of com-
missions of
postmasters.
1874, Mar.
18, ch. 57, 1
Supp., 5.
—appointed by
President.

Contracts for
supplies, cer-
tain limita-
tions not ap-
plicable to.
Mar. 24,
1874, 18 Stat.
L., 286. Reso-
lution 6.

Extra com-
pensation or
perquisites for-
bidden.
1874, June
20, ch. 328, §
3, 1 Supp., 18.

Unexpended
balances of ap-
propriations.
1874, June
20, ch. 328, §
5, 1 Supp., 18.

Advertisements
for pro-
posals.
R. S., § 3709.

In exigencies,
etc., purchases
in open mar-
ket.

manner in which such articles are usually bought and sold, or such services engaged, between individuals.

Note.

NOTE.—R. S., § 3709, has been amended, but the above is the original section. (See act of January 27, 1894, ch. 22, and act of April 21, 1894, ch. 61, for amendment.)

Approved June 22, 1874.

Sufficiency of sureties—postmaster's certificate as to.

R. S., § 3947. False certificate.—penalty.

Any postmaster or other officer of the Post-Office Department who shall affix his signature to the certificate of sufficiency of guarantors or sureties before the guarantee or contract is signed by the guarantors or sureties, or shall knowingly make any false or illusory certificate, shall be forthwith dismissed from office, and shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and be punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or by both.

Approved June 23, 1874.

Proposals to be accompanied by bond.

1874, June 23, ch. 456, § 12, 1 Supp., 44.

18 Stat. L., 235.

Conditions of bond.

—that service shall be performed.

—liability for failure.

Proposals without bond not to be considered.

Oath of bidder.

—what to contain.

Every proposal for carrying the mail shall be accompanied by the bond of the bidder, with sureties approved by a postmaster, and in cases where the amount of the bond exceeds five thousand dollars, by a postmaster of the first, second, or third class, in a sum to be designated by the Postmaster-General in the advertisement of each route; to which bond a condition shall be annexed, that if the said bidder shall, within such time after his bid is accepted as the Postmaster-General shall prescribe, enter into a contract with the United States of America, with good and sufficient sureties, to be approved by the Postmaster-General, to perform the service proposed in his said bid, and, further, that he shall perform the said service according to his contract, then the said obligation to be void, otherwise to be in full force and obligation in law; and in case of failure of any bidder to enter into such contract to perform the service, or, having executed a contract, in case of failure to perform the service, according to his contract, he and his sureties shall be liable for the amount of said bond as liquidated damages, to be recovered in an action of debt on the said bond. No proposal shall be considered unless it shall be accompanied by such bond, and there shall have been affixed to said proposal the oath of the bidder, taken before an officer qualified to administer oaths, that he has the ability, pecuniarily, to fulfill his obligations, and that the bid is made in good faith, and with the intention to enter into contract and perform the service in case his bid is accepted.

Approved June 23, 1874.

Unlawful approval, by postmaster, of bond or certificate of bidder.

1874, June 23, ch. 456, § 12, 1 Supp., 45.

18 Stat. L., 235.

—penalty.

Any postmaster who shall affix his signature to the approval of any bond of a bidder, or to the certificate of sufficiency of sureties in any contract before the said bond or contract is signed by the bidder or contractor and his sureties, or shall knowingly, or without the exercise of due diligence, approve any bond of a bidder with insufficient sureties, or shall knowingly make any false or fraudulent certificate, shall be forthwith dismissed from office, and be thereafter disqualified from holding the office of postmaster, and shall also be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both.

Approved June 23, 1874.

The postage on each copy of the daily Congressional Record mailed from the city of Washington as transient matter shall be one cent.

Approved June 23, 1874.

Postage on transient copies Congressional Record.

1874, June 23, ch. 456, § 13, 1 Supp., 45.

18 Stat. L. 237.

When the amount of mail matter to be carried on any mail route is so great as to seriously retard the progress or endanger the security of the letter mail, or materially increase the cost of carriage at the ordinary rate of speed, the Postmaster-General may provide for the separate carriage of the letter mail at the usual rate of speed; but the other mail matter shall not be delayed any more than is absolutely necessary, having due regard to the cost of expedition and the means at his disposal for effecting the same.

Approved February 18, 1875.

The payee of a money order may, by his written indorsement thereon, direct it to [be] paid to any other person, and the postmaster on whom it is drawn shall pay the same to the person thus designated, provided he shall furnish such proof as the Postmaster-General may prescribe that the indorsement is genuine, and that he is the person empowered to receive payment; but more than one indorsement shall render an order invalid and not payable, and the holder, to obtain payment, must apply in writing to the Postmaster-General for a new order in lieu thereof, returning the original order, and making such proof of the genuineness of the indorsements as the Postmaster-General may require.

Transfer of orders.

R. S., § 4037. —upon payee's indorsement.

More than one indorsement invalidates order.

When order is invalidated by indorsements, how secured.

Approved February 18, 1875.

The circuit courts (of the United States) shall have original jurisdiction as follows: * * *

Twentieth. Exclusive cognizance of all crimes and offenses cognizable under the authority of the United States, except where it is or may be otherwise provided by law, and concurrent jurisdiction with the district courts of crimes and offenses cognizable therein.

Approved February 19, 1875.

Circuit courts, jurisdiction—original and concurrent.

R. S., § 629.

There shall be connected with the Department of the Treasury six auditors of accounts, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall be known as the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Auditors, respectively. Each Auditor is entitled to a salary of four thousand dollars a year.

Auditor for the Post-Office Department.

R. S., § 276. —appointment of.

Approved March 3, 1875.

Seventh. The Sixth Auditor shall receive all accounts arising in the Post-Office Department, or relative thereto, with the vouchers necessary to a correct adjustment thereof, and shall audit and settle the same and certify the balances thereon to the Postmaster-General. He shall keep and preserve all accounts and vouchers after settlement. He shall close the account of the Department quarterly, and transmit to the Secretary of the Treasury quarterly

Accounts of Department, audited and preserved by Auditor.

R. S., § 277.

—to make statements of its receipts and expenditures. He shall report to quarterly settlements. the Postmaster-General, when required to do so, the manner and manner of form of keeping and stating the accounts of the Department, and keeping accounts, when the official forms of papers to be used in connection with its receipts and expenditures. He shall report to the Postmaster-General all delinquencies of postmasters in rendering their accounts and returns, or in paying over money-order funds and

—to counter-sign warrants. other receipts at their offices. He shall register, charge, and countersign all warrants upon the Treasury for receipts or payments issued by the Postmaster-General, when warranted by law. He shall perform such other duties in relation to the financial concerns of the Department as may be assigned to him by the Secretary of the Treasury, and make to the Secretary or to the Postmaster-General such reports respecting the same as either of them may require.

Reports.

Approved March 3, 1875.

District courts, jurisdiction. The district courts (of the United States) shall have jurisdiction as follows:

R. S., § 563.

First. Of all crimes and offenses cognizable under the authority of the United States, committed within their respective districts, or upon the high seas, the punishment of which is not capital. * * *

Approved March 3, 1875.

Limit of weight. No package weighing more than four pounds shall be received for conveyance by mail, except books published or circulated by order of Congress.

R. S., § 3879.

—exception.

Approved March 3, 1875.

Money orders, amount of—fees. No money order shall be issued for more than fifty dollars, and the fees therefor shall be, for orders not exceeding ten dollars,

R. S., § 4032.

five cents; exceeding ten and not exceeding twenty dollars, ten cents; exceeding twenty and not exceeding thirty dollars, fifteen cents; exceeding thirty and not exceeding forty dollars, twenty cents; exceeding forty dollars, twenty-five cents. (See Act March 3, 1883, c. 123, sec. 3.) (22 Stat., 527.)

Approved March 3, 1875.

Salary of postmaster at New York. The salary of the postmaster at the city of New York, New York * * * (shall be) eight thousand dollars per annum.

1875, Mar. 3, 1875, Mar. 3, 1875.

ch. 128, § 1, 1883, Mar. 3, ch. 142, § 4, 1 Supp., 420.

Mails, how weighed. * * * (The Postmaster-General) is hereby directed to have the mails weighed, as often as now provided by law, by the employees of the Post-Office Department, and have the weights stated and verified to him by said employees under such instructions as he may consider just to the Post-Office Department and the railroad companies.

1875, Mar. 3, ch. 128, § 1; 1 Supp., 70.

18 Stat. L., 341.

Expenses of taking weights.

lb.

Out of the appropriation for inland mail transportation the Postmaster-General is authorized hereafter to pay the expenses of taking the weights of mails on railroad routes.

Approved March 3, 1875.

The Sixth Auditor shall keep the accounts in his office so as to show the expenditures of the Post-Office Department under each item of appropriation provided by law.

Approved, March 3, 1875.

1875, Mar. 3, ch. 128, § 4, 1 Supp., 70. See 1890, Sept, 30, ch. 1126, 1 Supp., 811.

The Congressional Record, or any part thereof, or speeches or reports therein contained, shall, under the frank of a member of Congress, or delegate, to be written by himself, be carried in the mail free of postage, under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe.

Approved March 3, 1875.

Seeds transmitted by the Commissioner (Secretary) of Agriculture, or by any member of Congress or delegate receiving seeds for distribution from said Department, together with agricultural reports emanating from that Department, and so transmitted, shall, under such regulations as the Postmaster-General shall prescribe, pass through the mails free of charge. And the provisions of this section shall apply to ex-members of Congress and ex-delegates for the period of nine months after the expiration of their terms as members and delegates.

Approved March 3, 1875.

Any person who shall embezzle, steal, or purloin any money, property, record, voucher, or valuable thing whatever, of the moneys, goods, chattels, records, or property of the United States, shall be deemed guilty of felony, and on conviction thereof before the district or circuit court of the United States in the district wherein said offense may have been committed, or into which he shall carry or have in possession of said property so embezzled, stolen, or purloined, shall be punished therefor by imprisonment at hard labor in the penitentiary not exceeding five years, or by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or both, at the discretion of the court before which he shall be convicted.

Approved March 3, 1875.

If any person shall receive, conceal, or aid in concealing, or have, or retain in his possession with intent to convert to his own use or gain, any money, property, record, voucher, or valuable thing whatever, of the moneys, goods, chattels, records, or property of the United States, which has theretofore been embezzled, stolen, or purloined from the United States by any other person, knowing the same to have been so embezzled, stolen, or purloined, such person shall, on conviction before the circuit or district court of the United States in the district wherein he may have such property, be punished by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or imprisonment at hard labor in the penitentiary not exceeding five years, one or both, at the discretion of the court before which he shall be convicted. And such receiver may be tried either before or after the conviction of the principal felon, but if the party has been convicted, then the judgment against him shall be conclusive evidence in the prosecution against such receiver that the property of the United States therein described has been embezzled, stolen, or purloined.

Approved March 3, 1875.

Accounts of Auditor.

—to show expenditures under each appropriation.

1875, Mar. 3, ch. 1126, 1

Congressional Record.

1875, Mar. 3, ch. 128, § 5, 1 Supp., 70.

—may be carried free under written frank of member of Congress or delegate.

Seeds and agricultural reports.

1875, Mar. 3, ch. 128, § 7, 1 Supp., 70.

—may be sent free by Secretary of Agriculture, members of Congress, and delegates.

18 Stat. L., 343.

Embezzlement of money of the United States, etc.

1875, Mar. 3, ch. 144, 1 Supp., 88.

18 Stat. L., 479.

Having in possession or carrying into another district money embezzled.—penalty.

Receiving stolen money or property.

1875, Mar. 3, ch. 144, § 2, 1 Supp., 89.

18 Stat. L., 479.

—penalty.

Claims, etc.,
against United
States.
1875, Mar. 3,
ch. 149, 1
Supp., 90.
18 Stat. L.,
481.

—amount to
be withheld
where claim-
ant indebted to
United States.

—proceedings
where indebt-
edness denied.

Balance, how
paid when
claimant ob-
tains judgment
against United
States.

Postmasters,
appointment
and removal
of.
R. S., § 3830.

Notice to
Auditor.

Allowances
for clerk hire
at distributing
offices of third
and fourth
classes.
R. S., § 3859.

Mail matter,
second class,
defined.
R. S., § 3877.

Mail matter,
third class, de-
fined.
R. S., § 3878.

When any final judgment recovered against the United States or other claim duly allowed by legal authority shall be presented to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment, and the plaintiff or claimant therein shall be indebted to the United States in any manner, whether as principal or surety, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to withhold payment of an amount of such judgment or claim equal to the debt thus due to the United States; and if such plaintiff or claimant assents to such set-off, and discharges his judgment or an amount thereof equal to said debt or claim, the Secretary shall execute a discharge of the debt due from the plaintiff to the United States.

But if such plaintiff, or claimant, denies his indebtedness to the United States, or refuses to consent to the set-off, then the Secretary shall withhold payment of such further amount of such judgment, or claim, as in his opinion will be sufficient to cover all legal charges and costs in prosecuting the debt of the United States to final judgment.

And if such debt is not already in suit, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to cause legal proceedings to be immediately commenced to enforce the same, and to cause the same to be prosecuted to final judgment with all reasonable dispatch.

And if in such action judgment shall be rendered against the United States, or the amount recovered for debt and costs shall be less than the amount so withheld as before provided, the balance shall then be paid over to such plaintiff by such Secretary, with six per cent interest thereon for the time it has been withheld from the plaintiff.

Approved March 3, 1875.

Postmasters of the fourth and fifth class shall be appointed and may be removed by the Postmaster-General, and all others shall be appointed and may be removed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall hold their offices for four years unless sooner removed or suspended according to law. All appointments and removals shall be notified to the Sixth Auditor.

Approved July 12, 1876.

The Postmaster-General may designate offices at the intersection of mail routes as distributing or separating offices; and where any such office is of the third (or) fourth * * * class he may make a reasonable allowance to the postmaster for the necessary cost of clerical services arising from such duties.

Approved July 12, 1876.

Mailable matter of the second class shall embrace all matter exclusively in print and regularly issued at stated periods from a known office of publication without addition by writing, mark, or sign.

Approved July 12, 1876.

Mailable matter of the third class shall embrace all pamphlets, occasional publications, transient newspapers, magazines, handbills, posters, unsealed circulars, prospectuses, books, book manu-

scripts, proof sheets, corrected proof sheets, maps, prints, engravings, blanks, flexible patterns, samples of merchandise not exceeding twelve ounces in weight, sample cards, phonographic paper, letter envelopes, postal envelopes and wrappers, cards, plain and ornamental paper, photographic representations of different types, seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, scions, and all other matter which may be declared mailable by law, and all other articles not above the weight prescribed by law, which are not, from their form or nature, liable to destroy, deface, or otherwise injure the contents of the mail bag or the person of anyone engaged in the postal service. All liquids, poisons, glass, explosive materials, and obscene books shall be excluded from the mails. All matter of the third class, excepting books and other printed matter, book manuscripts, proof sheets and corrected proof sheets, packages of seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, and scions shall not exceed twelve ounces in weight, and packages of seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, and scions shall not exceed four pounds in weight; and all matter of the third class shall be subject to examination and to rates of postage as hereinafter provided. Samples of metals, ores, and mineralogical specimens shall not exceed twelve ounces in weight, and shall be subject to examination and to rates of postage as hereinafter provided.

Approved July 12, 1876.

Publishers of newspapers and periodicals may print or write upon their publications sent to regular subscribers the address of the subscriber and the date when the subscription expires, and may inclose therein bills and receipts for subscriptions thereto without subjecting such publications to extra postage.

Newspapers,
permissible
writing on.
R. S., § 3886.

Approved July 12, 1876.

[No obscene, lewd, or lascivious book, pamphlet, picture, paper, print, or other publication of an indecent character, or any article or thing designed or intended for the prevention of conception or procuring of abortion, nor any article or thing intended or adapted for any indecent or immoral use or nature, nor any written or printed card, circular, book, pamphlet, advertisement, or notice of any kind, giving information, directly or indirectly, where, or how, or of whom, or by what means either of the thing before mentioned may be obtained or made, nor any letter upon the envelope of which, or postal card upon which indecent or scurrilous epithets may be written or printed, shall be carried in the mail; and any person who shall knowingly deposit or cause to be deposited, for mailing or delivery, any of the hereinbefore-mentioned articles or things, or any notice or paper containing any advertisement relating to the aforesaid articles or things, and any person who, in pursuance of any plan or scheme for disposing of any of the hereinbefore-mentioned articles or things, shall take, or cause to be taken, from the mail any such letter or package shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, for every offense, be fined not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than five thousand dollars, or imprisoned at hard labor not less than one year nor more than ten years, or both.] [Every obscene, lewd, or lascivious book, pamphlet, picture, paper, writing, print, or other

O b s c e n e
books, etc., not
mailable.
R. S., § 3893.

—penalty.

publication of an indecent character, and every article or thing designed or intended for the prevention of conception or procuring of abortion, and every article or thing intended or adapted for any indecent or immoral use, and every written or printed card, circular, book, pamphlet, advertisement, or notice of any kind giving information, directly or indirectly, where, or how, or of whom, or by what means, any of the hereinbefore-mentioned matters, articles, or things may be obtained or made, and every letter upon the envelope of which, or postal card upon which, indecent, lewd, obscene, or lascivious delineations, epithets, terms, or language may be written or printed, are hereby declared to be nonmailable matter, and shall not be conveyed in the mails, nor delivered from any post-office nor by any letter carrier; and any person who shall knowingly deposit, or cause to be deposited, for mailing or delivery, anything declared by this section to be nonmailable matter, and any person who shall knowingly take the same, or cause the same to be taken from the mails, for the purpose of circulating or disposing of, or of aiding in the circulation or disposition of the same, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall for each and every offence be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five thousand dollars, or imprisoned at hard labor not less than one year nor more than ten years, or both, at the discretion of the court. And all offences committed under said original section thirty-eight hundred and ninety-three of the Revised Statutes prior to the approval of this act may be prosecuted and punished under the said original section in the same manner and with the same effect as if this act had not been passed.]

Approved July 12, 1876.

Lottery circulars, etc., not mailable.
R. S., § 3894.

No letter or circular concerning (illegal) lotteries, so-called gift concerts, or other similar enterprises, offering prizes, or concerning schemes devised and intended to deceive and defraud the public for the purpose of obtaining money under false pretenses, shall be carried in the mail. Any person who shall knowingly deposit or send anything to be conveyed by mail in violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars nor less than one hundred dollars, with costs of prosecution.

Approved July 12, 1876.

Compensation reduced 10 per cent.
1876, July 12, ch. 179, § 1; 1 Supp., 110.
19 Stat. L., 79.

The Postmaster-General * * * is hereby authorized and directed to readjust the compensation to be paid from and after the first day of July, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, for transportation of mails on railroad routes by reducing the compensation to all railroad companies for the transportation of mails ten per centum per annum from the rates fixed and allowed by the first section of an act entitled "An act making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, and for other purposes," approved March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-three (R. S., § 4002), for the transportation of mails on the basis of the average weight.

Approved July 12, 1876.

—penalty.

The annual reports of the Auditor for the Post-Office Department to the Postmaster-General shall show the financial condition of the Post-Office Department at the close of each fiscal year, and be made a part of the Postmaster-General's annual report to Congress for that fiscal year.

Approved July 12, 1876.

Postmasters shall be divided into four classes, as follows:

The first class shall embrace all those whose annual salaries are three thousand dollars or more than three thousand dollars;

The second class shall embrace all those whose annual salaries are less than three thousand dollars, but not less than two thousand dollars;

The third class shall embrace all those whose annual salaries are less than two thousand dollars, but not less than one thousand dollars;

The fourth class shall embrace all postmasters whose annual compensation, exclusive of their commissions on the money-order business of their offices, amounts to less than one thousand dollars.

Approved July 12, 1876.

Postmasters of the first, second, and third classes shall be appointed and may be removed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall hold their offices for four years unless sooner removed or suspended according to law; and postmasters of the fourth class shall be appointed and may be removed by the Postmaster-General, by whom all appointments and removals shall be notified to the Auditor for the Post-Office Department.

Approved July 12, 1876.

Railroad companies whose railroad was constructed in whole or in part by a land grant made by Congress on the condition that the mails should be transported over their road at such price as Congress should by law direct shall receive only eighty per centum of the compensation authorized by this act.

Approved July 12, 1876.

No stamped envelopes or newspaper wrappers shall be sold by the Post-Office Department at less (in addition to the legal postage) than the cost, including all salaries, clerk hire, and other expenses connected therewith.

Approved July 12, 1876.

Addresses upon postal cards * * * may be either written, printed, or affixed thereto, at the option of the sender.

Approved July 12, 1876.

Financial condition to be shown by report of Auditor.

1876, July 12, ch. 179, § 4, 1 Supp., 110.
19 Stat. L., 80.

Classification of postmasters.

1876, July 12, ch. 179, § 5, 1 Supp., 110.
19 Stat. L., 80.
—first class.

—second class.

—third class.

—fourth class.

Appointment and removal of postmasters.

1876, July 12, ch. 179, § 6, 1 Supp., 110.
19 Stat. L., 80.

—of first, second, and third classes.

—of fourth class.

Land-grant roads.

1876, July 12, ch. 179, § 13, 1 Supp., 110.

19 Stat. L., 82.

—rate of compensation to.

Stamped envelopes sold at cost.

July 12, 1876, ch. 179, § 14, 19 Stat. L., 82.

Postal cards.—address labels on.

1876, July 12, ch. 179, § 15, 1 Supp., 110.
19 Stat. L., 82.

Guarantee of proposals.

R. S., § 3945. Every proposal for carrying the mail shall be accompanied by a written guarantee, signed by one or more responsible persons, and undertaking that, within such time after the bid is accepted as the Postmaster-General may prescribe, the bidder will enter into an obligation, with good and sufficient sureties, to perform the service proposed; and no proposals shall be considered unless accompanied by such guarantee.

Approved August 11, 1876.

Oath of bidder for carrying mail.

R. S., § 3946. Each bid for carrying the mail shall hereafter have affixed to it the oath of the bidder, taken before an officer qualified to administer oaths, that he has the pecuniary ability to fulfill his obligations, and that the bid is made in good faith and with the intention to enter into contract and perform the service, in case his bid shall be accepted; and that the signatures of his guarantors are genuine, and that he believes the guarantors pecuniarily responsible for and able to pay all damages the United States shall suffer by reason of the bidder's failing to perform his obligations as such bidder.

Approved August 11, 1876.

Carrying mail—proceedings on failure of bidder or contractor.

R. S., § 3951. After any regular bidder or contractor for the transportation of the mail upon any route shall have failed to enter into contract, and commence the performance as herein provided, the Postmaster-General shall proceed to contract with the next lowest bidder for such service, who will enter into a contract and perform the same, unless the Postmaster-General shall consider such bid too high, in which case he shall readvertise such service. And in all cases of regular contracts hereafter made the contract may, in the discretion of the Postmaster-General, be continued in force beyond its express terms for a period not exceeding six months, until a new contract with the same or other contractors shall be made by the Postmaster-General. The Postmaster-General may contract, without advertisement, for a period not to exceed twelve months, for the carriage of the mail on such route during the time that shall necessarily elapse between the failure of either of the accepted bidders to enter into a contract and the time when the next accepted bidder under the old or a new advertisement shall enter upon his contract; and the difference between the price proposed in the accepted bid and that paid for intermediate service shall be charged to the failing bidder or bidders, and may be recovered in the name of the United States for the use of the Post-Office Department, in an action on the case. And when the contract shall be made and concluded, the difference between the accepted bid of the failing bidders and the amount payable under the contract for the service of two years shall be forthwith charged against the failing bidder or bidders; and an action for such sum in the nature of liquidated damages shall accrue to the United States for the use of the Post-Office Department immediately upon the execution of the final contract. And both causes of action mentioned in this section may be joined in one suit.

Approved August 11, 1876.

[Any person or persons bidding for the transportation of the mails upon any route which may be advertised to be let, and receiving an award of the contract for such service, who shall wrongfully refuse or fail to enter into contract with the Postmaster-General in due form, and perform the service described in his or their bid or proposal, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and be punishable by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars, and by imprisonment for not more than twelve months.] [Any person or persons bidding for the transportation of the mails upon any route which may be advertised to be let, and receiving an award of the contract for such service, who shall wrongfully refuse or fail to enter into contract with the Postmaster-General in due form to perform the service described in his or their bid or proposal, or having entered into such contract shall wrongfully refuse or fail to perform such service, shall, for any such failure or refusal, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and be punished by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars, and by imprisonment for not more than twelve months. And the failure or refusal of any such person or persons to enter into such contract in due form, or having entered into such contract the failure or refusal to perform such service, shall be prima facie evidence in all actions or prosecutions arising under this section that such failure or refusal was wrongful.]

Carrying mail — failure to enter into contract.
R. S., § 3954.

—penalty.

—penalty.

Approved August 11, 1876.

Before the bond of a bidder (for carrying the mail) * * * is approved, there shall be indorsed thereon the oaths of the sureties therein, taken before an officer qualified to administer oaths, that they are owners of real estate worth in the aggregate a sum double the amount of said bond, over and above all debts due and owing by them, and all judgments, mortgages, and executions against them, after allowing all exemptions of every character whatever. Accompanying said bond, and as a part thereof, there shall be a series of interrogatories, in print or writing, to be prescribed by the Postmaster-General, and answered by the sureties under oath, showing the amount of real estate owned by them, a brief description thereof, and its probable value, where it is situated, in what county and State the record evidence of their title exists. And if any surety shall knowingly and willfully swear falsely to any statement made under the provisions of this section he shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and, on conviction thereof, be punished as is provided by law for commission of the crime of perjury. (See R. S., § 5392.)

Sureties on bonds of bidders.
1876, Aug. 11, ch. 260, 1 Supp., 116.
19 Stat. L., 129.
—oath to be taken by.
—qualification of.
—interrogatories to be answered by.

Penalty for false swearing.

Approved August 11, 1876.

* * * After any regular bidder whose bid has been accepted shall fail to enter into contract for the transportation of the mails according to his proposals, or having entered into contract shall fail to commence the performance of the service stipulated in his or their contract as therein provided, the Postmaster-General shall proceed to contract with the next lowest bidder or bidders in the order of their bids, for the same service, who will enter into a contract for the performance thereof, unless the Postmaster-

Failure of bidder to enter into contract or contractor to commence service.
1876, Aug. 11, ch. 260, 1 Supp., 116.
19 Stat. L., 129.
—new contract in case of.

General shall consider such bid or bids too high, and in case each of said bids shall be considered too high, then the Postmaster-General shall be authorized to enter into contract, at a price less than that named in said bids, with any person, whether a bidder or not, who will enter into contract to perform the service in accordance with the terms and provisions prescribed for the execution of other contracts for similar service, and in case no satisfactory contract can be thus obtained, he shall readvertise such route.

Approved August 11, 1876.

Failure of contractor to perform service.

1876, Aug. 11, ch. 260, 1 Supp., 117.

* * * If any bidder whose bid has been accepted, and who has entered into a contract to perform the service according to his proposal, and in pursuance of his contract has entered upon the performance of the service, to the satisfaction of the Postmaster-General, shall subsequently fail or refuse to perform the service according to his contract, the Postmaster-General shall proceed to contract with the next lowest bidder for such service, under the advertisement thereof (unless the Postmaster-General shall consider such bid too high), who will enter into contract and give bond, with sureties to be approved by the Postmaster-General, for the faithful performance thereof, in the same penalty and with the same terms and condition thereto annexed as were stated and contained in the bond which accompanied his bid; and in case said next lowest bidder shall decline to enter into contract for the performance of such service, then the Postmaster-General may award the service to, and enter into contract with, any person, whether a bidder on said route or not, who will enter into contract to perform the service and execute a bond of like tenor and effect as that required of bidders, in a penalty to be prescribed, and with sureties to be approved by the Postmaster-General, for the performance of the service contracted to be performed at a price not exceeding that named in the bid of the said next lowest bidder; and if no contract can be secured at the price named in said next lowest bid, then the Postmaster-General shall proceed to secure a contract, at a price not considered too high, with any person who will execute such contract in accordance with the law applicable thereto, giving, in all cases, the preference to the regular bidders on the list whose bids do not exceed the price at which others will contract therefor; and if no satisfactory contract can be thus secured, the route shall be readvertised.

Approved August 11, 1876.

Temporary contract.

1876, Aug. 11, ch. 260, 1 Supp., 117; 1879, June 12, ch. 20, 1 Supp., 266.

—where bidder fails to sign contract.

—on new route, etc.

—how secured.

Whenever an accepted bidder shall fail to enter into contract, or a contractor on any mail route shall fail or refuse to perform the service on said route according to his contract, or when a new route shall be established or new service required, or when, from any other cause, there shall not be a contractor legally bound or required to perform such service, the Postmaster-General may make a temporary contract for carrying the mail on such route, without advertisement, for such period as may be necessary, not in any case exceeding one year, until the service shall have commenced under a contract made according to law: *Provided, however,* That the Postmaster-General shall not employ temporary

—cost of.

service on any route at a higher price than that paid to the contractor who shall have performed the service during the last preceding contract term.

Approved August 11, 1876.

Any person or persons bidding for the transportation of the mails upon any route which may be advertised to be let, and receiving an award of the contract for such service, who shall wrongfully refuse or fail to enter into contract with the Postmaster-General in due form to perform the service described in his or their bid or proposal, or having entered into such contract shall wrongfully refuse or fail to perform such service, shall, for any such failure or refusal, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and be punished by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars, and by imprisonment for not more than twelve months. And the failure or refusal of any such person or persons to enter into such contract in due form, or having entered into such contract the failure or refusal to perform such service, shall be prima facie evidence in all actions or prosecutions arising under this section that such failure or refusal was wrongful.

Approved August 11, 1876.

The head of each Department is authorized to prescribe regulations, not inconsistent with law, for the government of his Department, the conduct of its officers and clerks, the distribution and performance of its business, and the custody, use, and preservation of the records, papers, and property appertaining to it.

Approved August 15, 1876.

In making any reduction of force in any of the executive departments, the head of such department shall retain those persons who may be equally qualified who have been honorably discharged from the military or naval service of the United States, and the widows and orphans of deceased soldiers and sailors.

Approved August 15, 1876.

It shall be the duty of every disbursing officer having any public money intrusted to him for disbursement to deposit the same with the Treasurer or some one of the assistant treasurers of the United States and to draw for the same only as it may be required for payments to be made by him in pursuance of law (and draw for the same only in favor of the persons to whom payment is made); and all transfers from the Treasurer of the United States to a disbursing officer shall be by draft or warrant on the Treasury or an assistant treasurer of the United States. * * *

Approved February 27, 1877.

In every such contract or agreement to be made or entered into or accepted by or on behalf of the United States there shall be inserted an express condition that no Member of (or Delegate to) Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of such contract or agreement or to any benefit to arise thereupon.

NOTE.—See R. S., § 3739, which provides that Members of Congress shall not be interested in contracts.

Approved February 27, 1877.

Failure to enter into or perform contract for mail service.

1876, Aug. 11, ch. 260, 1 Supp., 118.

—penalty.

Prima facie evidence of violation, what to constitute.

Regulations. R. S., § 161. —Postmaster-General may prescribe.

Dismissal of employees—soldiers.

—and widows and orphans of, to be retained in service, when.

1876, Aug. 15, ch. 287, § 3, 1 Supp., 120.

Disbursing officers to deposit.

R. S., § 3620. —with whom.

Transfers.

Contracts to contain clause that Members of Congress shall not be interested.

R. S., § 3741.

Note.

Assistant
Postmasters-
General.

R. S., § 389.
—term of of-
fice of.

There shall be in the Post-Office Department three Assistant Postmasters-General, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who may be removed in the same manner and who shall be entitled to a salary of four thousand dollars a year each.

Approved March 3, 1877.

General du-
ties of the Post-
master-Gen-
eral.

R. S., § 396.
Post-offices.
Employees.
Official pa-
pers.
Finances.

It shall be the duty of the Postmaster-General:

First. To establish and discontinue post-offices.

Second. To instruct all persons in the postal service with reference to their duties.

Third. To decide on the forms of all official papers.

Fourth. To prescribe the manner of keeping and stating accounts.

Fifth. To enforce the prompt rendition of returns relative to accounts.

Sixth. To control, according to law and subject to the settlement of the Auditor for the Post-Office Department, all expenses incident to the service of the Department.

Seventh. To superintend the disposal of the moneys of the Department.

Eighth. To direct the manner in which balances shall be paid over; issue warrants to cover money into the Treasury, and to pay out the same.

General su-
pervision of
Department
and postal
service.

Ninth. To superintend generally the business of the Department and execute all laws relative to the postal service.

Note: Mis-
cellaneous du-
ties not con-
nected with
postal service.

NOTE.—As to certain duties of the Postmaster-General not directly connected with the postal service, see Title One, ch. 15 (Government telegrams); R. S., § 3734 (approval of plans for public buildings); R. S., §§ 5579 and 5585 (as member of Smithsonian Institution).

Approved March 3, 1877.

Newspapers,
rates of post-
age.

R. S., § 3872.

The rate of postage on newspapers, excepting weeklies, periodicals not exceeding two ounces in weight, and circulars, when the same are deposited in a letter-carrier office for delivery by the office or its carriers, shall be uniform at one cent each; but periodicals weighing more than two ounces shall be subject to a postage of two cents each, and these rates shall be prepaid by stamps.

Approved March 3, 1877.

Third class
matter, pay-
ment of post-
age on.

R. S., § 3897.

All mail matter of the third class must be prepaid in full in postage stamps at the office of mailing.

Approved March 3, 1877.

Letters, post-
age on.

R. S., § 3903.

On all mail matter which is wholly or partly in writing, except book manuscripts and corrected proofs passing between authors and publishers, and local or drop letters; on all printed matter which is so marked as to convey any other or further information than is conveyed by the original print, except the correction of mere typographical errors; on all matter which is sent in violation of law or the regulations of the Department respecting in-

closures; and on all matter to which no specific rate of postage is assigned, postage shall be charged at the rate of three cents for each half ounce or fraction thereof.

Approved March 3, 1877.

On newspapers and other periodical publications, not exceeding four ounces in weight, sent from a known office of publication to regular subscribers, postage shall be charged at the following rates per quarter, namely: On publications issued less frequently than once a week, at the rate of one cent for each issue; issued once a week, five cents; and five cents additional for each issue more frequent than once a week. And an additional rate shall be charged for each additional four ounces or fraction thereof in weight.

Approved March 3, 1877.

That from and after the passage of this act the bonds of all postmasters may by the direction of the Postmaster-General be approved and accepted, and the approval and acceptance signed by the First Assistant Postmaster-General in the name of the Postmaster-General.

Approved March 3, 1877.

All contracts for stationery, wrapping paper, letter balances, scales, and street letter boxes, for the use of the postal service may be signed * * * by the First Assistant Postmaster-General in the place and stead of the Postmaster-General, and his signature shall be attested by the seal of the Post-Office Department.

The Second Assistant Postmaster-General on the order of the Postmaster-General may sign with his name, in the place and stead of the Postmaster-General, and attest his signature by the seal of the Post-Office Department, all contracts made in the said Department for mail transportation and for supplies of mail bags, mail catchers, mail locks, and keys, and all other articles necessary and incidental to mail transportation.

The Third Assistant Postmaster-General, when directed by the Postmaster-General, may also sign, in his name, in the place and stead of the Postmaster-General, and attest his signature by the seal of the Post-Office Department, all contracts for supplies of postage stamps, stamped envelopes, newspapers wrappers, postal cards, registered-package envelopes, locks, seals, and official envelopes for the use of postmasters, and return of dead letters, that may be required for the postal service.

Approved March 3, 1877.

It shall be lawful (for all officers of the United States Government, not including members of Congress, and the Smithsonian Institution, the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, and the Bureau of the American Republics, established in Washington) to transmit through the mail, free of postage, any letters, packages, or other matters relating exclusively to the business of the Government of the United States (or of such

Printed matter, postage on.
R. S., § 3905.

Bonds of postmasters — approval of.
Act Mar. 3, 1877, ch. 103, sec. 2, 19 Stat. L., 335.

Signing of contracts.
1877, Mar. 3, ch. 103, § 2-4, 1 Supp., 135.
First Asst. P. M. G. —for supplies. —street letter boxes.
Second Asst. P. M. G.

—for mail transportation.
—mail bags, keys, etc.
Third Asst. P. M. G.

—for stamps, stamped paper, etc.
—official envelopes, etc.

Official or penalty envelopes.
1877, Mar. 3, ch. 103, § 5, 1 Supp., 135.
—use of, who entitled to.
(See also 1884, July 5, ch. 234, § 3, 1 Supp., 467.

1886, July 2, Institution, Home, or Bureau): *Provided*, That every such letter
 ch. 611, § 1, or package to entitle it to pass free shall bear over the words
 Supp. 500. "Official business" an endorsement showing also the name of
 1894, Aug. 18, ch. 301, § 2, the Department, and, if from a bureau or office (or officer), the
 Supp., 257. names of the Department and Bureau or office (or officer), as the
 1897, Feb. 20, case may be, whence transmitted (with a statement of the penalty
 ch. 268, § 2, for their misuse). And if any person shall make use of any
 Supp., 558.) such official envelope to avoid the payment of postage on his
 —in dorse- private letter, package, or other matter in the mail, the person
 —ments on. so offending shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and subject
 —penalty for to a fine of three hundred dollars, to be prosecuted in any court
 unlawful use. of competent jurisdiction.

Approved March 3, 1877.

Subletting of No sub-letting or transfer of any mail contracts shall be per-
 contracts. mitted without the consent in writing of the Postmaster-General;
 1878, May 17, and whenever it shall come to the knowledge of the Postmaster-
 ch. 107, § 2, § 1 General that any contractor has sub-let or transferred his contract,
 Supp., 165. except with the consent of the Postmaster-General as aforesaid,
 —Postmaster- General may the same shall be considered as violated and the service may be
 authorize. in case of, again advertised as herein provided for; and the contractor and
 —in case of, his sureties shall be liable on their bond to the United States for
 without per- any damage resulting to the United States in the premises.
 mission, to be annulled.

Approved May 17, 1878.

Manner of When any person or persons being under contract with the
 subletting con- Government of the United States for carrying the mails shall law-
 tracts. fully sub-let any such contract, or lawfully employ any other
 1878, May 17, ch. 107, § person or persons to perform the service by such contractor agreed
 3, § 1 Supp., 165. to be performed, or any part thereof, he or they shall file in the

Copy of con- office of the Second Assistant Postmaster-General a copy of his
 tract to be or their contract; and thereupon it shall be the duty of the Sec-
 filed. ond Assistant Postmaster-General to notify the Auditor for the

Auditor to Post-Office Department of the fact of the filing in his office of such
 be notified. contract. Said notice shall embrace the name or names of the
 original contractor or contractors, the number of the route or
 routes, the name or names of the sub-contractor or sub-contractors,
 and the amount agreed to be paid to the sub-contractor or sub-
 contractors. And upon the receipt of said notice by the Auditor

Auditor to for the Post-Office Department it shall be his duty to retain, out
 pay subcon- of the amount due the original contractor or contractors, the
 tractor. amount stated in said notice as agreed to be paid to the sub-con-
 tractor or sub-contractors, and shall pay said amount, upon the
 certificate of the Second Assistant Postmaster-General, to the
 sub-contractor or sub-contractors, under the same rules and regu-
 lations now governing the payments made to original contractors:

—proviso.

Provided, That upon satisfactory evidence that the original con-
 tractor or contractors have paid off and discharged the amount
 due under his or their contract to the sub-contractor or sub-con-
 tractors, it shall be the duty of the Second Assistant Postmaster-
 General to certify such fact to the Auditor for the Post-Office
 Department; and thereupon said Auditor shall settle with the
 original contractor or contractors, under the same rules as are
 now provided by law for such settlements.

Approved May 17, 1878.

* * * The Postmaster-General may contract with the owners or masters of steamships, steamboats, or other vessels plying upon the waters or between ports of the United States for carrying the mails upon such routes where no mail service has previously been performed, without advertising for proposals therefor; but no contract for such new service shall be for a longer time than one year.
Approved May 17, 1878.

Contracts for service upon domestic water routes where service is new.
1878, May 17, ch. 107, § 5, 1 Supp., 165.
—how made.
—duration of.

When from any cause it may become necessary to make a new contract for carrying the mails upon any water route between the ports of the United States, upon which mail service has previously been performed, the Postmaster-General may contract with the owner or master of any steamship, steamboat, or other vessel plying upon the waters or between ports of the United States, for carrying the mail upon said route for any length of time not exceeding four years and without advertising for proposals therefor whenever the public interest and convenience will thereby be promoted; but the price paid for such service shall in no case be greater than the average price paid under the last preceding or then existing regular contract upon the same route.
Approved May 17, 1878.

Contracts for service upon domestic water routes where service has previously been performed.
1878, May 17, ch. 107, § 5, 1 Supp., 165.

—duration of.
—how made.
Compensation.

* * * No contract for carrying the mails between the United States and any foreign port shall be for a longer time than two years, unless otherwise directed by Congress.
Approved May 17, 1878.

Limit of contracts—carrying foreign mails.
1878, May 17, ch. 107, § 5, 1 Supp., 166.

* * * And it shall be the duty of the several accounting officers of the Treasury to continue to receive, examine, and consider the justice and validity of all claims under appropriations the balances of which have been exhausted or carried to the surplus fund under the provisions of said section (act June 20, 1874) that may be brought before them within a period of five years.
Approved June 14, 1878.

Claims under exhausted and unavailable appropriations.
1878, June 14, ch. 191, § 4, 1 Supp., 180.

The Postmaster-General may require a sworn statement to accompany each quarterly account of a postmaster. * * * The form of affidavit to be made by postmasters upon their returns shall be such as may be prescribed by the Postmaster-General.
* * *

Sworn statement to accompany accounts, when.
1878, June 17, ch. 259, 1 Supp., 186.

Approved June 17, 1878.

That in any case where the Postmaster-General shall be satisfied that a postmaster has made a false return of business, it shall be within his discretion to withhold commissions on such returns, and to allow any compensation that under the circumstances he may deem reasonable. * * *

False returns by postmasters.
1878, June 17, ch. 259, 1 Supp., 186.
Postmaster-General may fix compensation in case of.

Approved June 17, 1878.

* * * Any postmaster who shall make a false return to the Auditor, for the purpose of fraudulently increasing his compensation under the provisions of this or any other act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be fined in a sum not less than fifty nor more than five hundred dollars, or

False returns by postmasters.
1878, June 17, ch. 259, 1 Supp., 186.
—penalty.

imprisoned for a term not exceeding one year, or punished by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

Approved June 17, 1878.

Sale of stamps, envelopes, etc.

1878, June 17, ch. 259, 1 Supp., 187.

See R. S., § 3920.

—to be at face or schedule value, etc.

No postmaster of any class, or other person connected with the postal service, entrusted with the sale or custody of postage stamps, stamped envelopes, or postal cards, shall use or dispose of them in the payment of debts or in the purchase of merchandise or other salable articles, or pledge or hypothecate the same, or sell or dispose of them except for cash, or sell or dispose of postage stamps or postal cards for any larger or less sum than the values indicated on their faces, or sell or dispose of stamped envelopes for a larger or less sum than is charged therefor by the Post-Office Department for like quantities, or sell or dispose of postage stamps, stamped envelopes, or postal cards otherwise than as provided by law and the regulations of the Post-Office Department; and any postmaster, or other person connected with the postal service, who shall violate any of these provisions, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be fined in any sum not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars or be imprisoned for a term not exceeding one year.

Approved June 17, 1878.

Compensation to railroads reduced five per cent more.

1878, June 17, ch. 259, § 1, 1 Supp., 187.

The Postmaster-General * * * is hereby authorized and directed to readjust the compensation to be paid from and after the first day of July, eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, for transportation of mails on railroad routes by reducing the compensation to all railroad companies for the transportation of mails five per centum per annum from the rates for the transportation of mails, on the basis of the average weight fixed and allowed by the first section of an act entitled "An act making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, and for other purposes," approved July twelfth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six.

Approved June 17, 1878.

Rates for advertising.

1878, June 20, ch. 359, 1 Supp., 202.

See 1876, July 31, ch. 246, 1 Supp., 114.

—not to exceed commercial.

All advertisements, notices, proposals for contracts, and all other forms of advertising required by law for the several Departments of the Government may be paid for at a price not to exceed the commercial rates charged to private individuals, with the usual discounts; such rates to be ascertained from sworn statements to be furnished by the proprietors or publishers of the newspapers proposing so to advertise: * * * But the heads of the several Departments may secure lower terms at special rates whenever the public interest requires it.

Approved June 20, 1878.

Uniform canceling ink.

1878, June 20, ch. 359, 1 Supp., 203.

—may be adopted, when.

The Postmaster-General * * * is hereby authorized to adopt a uniform canceling ink or other appliance for canceling stamps which experiments and tests have proved or may prove to be the most practicable and the best calculated to protect the revenues of the Department from the frauds practiced upon it, to be used in all the post-offices where stamps are canceled; and he is hereby

authorized to distribute said canceling ink or other appliance in the same manner as other supplies are now distributed to the different post-offices in the United States. * * *

—distribution of.

NOTE.—The remaining portion of the statute relates to funds made available for the purchase of ink, but as the annual appropriation acts contain an item for this purpose it is omitted.

Note.

Approved June 20, 1878.

* * * Any officer of the United States, or any assistant of such officer, who shall embezzle or wrongfully convert to his own use any money or property which may have come into his possession or under his control in the execution of such office or employment, or under color or claim of authority as such officer or assistant, whether the same shall be the money or property of the United States or of some other person or party, shall, where the offense is not otherwise punishable by some statute of the United States, be punished by a fine equal to the value of the money and property thus embezzled or converted, or by imprisonment not less than three months nor more than ten years, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Embezzlement of money or property not otherwise punishable.

1879, Feb. 3, ch. 42, 1 Supp., 213.

—penalty.

Approved February 3, 1879.

When a deficiency shall be discovered in the accounts of any postmaster, who after the adjustment of his accounts fails to make good such deficiency, it shall be the duty of the Auditor for the Post-Office Department to notify the Postmaster-General of such failure, and upon receiving such notice the Postmaster-General shall forthwith deposit a notice in the post-office at Washington, District of Columbia, addressed to the sureties respectively upon the bonds of said postmaster, at the office where he or they may reside, if known. But a failure to give or mail such notice shall not discharge such surety or sureties upon such bonds.

Deficiencies in postmasters' accounts.

1879, Feb. 4, ch. 45, 1 Supp., 214.

—to be reported to Postmaster-General.

—sureties to be notified.

Approved February 4, 1879.

In case any increase or diminution of service by postal cars shall be made by (the Postmaster-General), the reasons therefor shall be given in his annual report next succeeding such increase or diminution.

Postal-car service.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, 1 Supp., 245.

—report of increase or diminution of.

Approved March 3, 1879.

* * * In making his estimate for railway mail service, the Postmaster-General shall separate the estimate for postal-car service from the general estimates.

Estimates for Railway Mail Service.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, 1 Supp., 245.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Nothing contained in section 3982 of the Revised Statutes shall be construed as prohibiting any person from receiving and delivering to the nearest post-office or postal car mail matter properly stamped.

Carrying mail by private express forbidden—exception.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, 1 Supp., 245.

Approved March 3, 1879.

(Railway) postal clerks * * * shall not be required to wear uniform other than a cap or badge.

Cap or badge to be worn by postal clerks.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, 1 Supp., 245.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Postmaster-General to decide what trains shall carry mails.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 3, 1 Supp., 246.

The Postmaster-General shall, in all cases, decide upon what trains and in what manner the mails shall be conveyed.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Style, character, and equipment of post-office cars.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 4, 1 Supp., 246.

All cars or parts of cars used for the railway mail service shall be of such style, length, and character, and furnished in such manner as shall be required by the Postmaster-General, and shall be constructed, fitted up, maintained, heated, and lighted by and at the expense of the railroad companies.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Companies to furnish Department with data relative to operations.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 6, 1 Supp., 246.

Postmaster-General to make recommendation on such information.

The Postmaster-General shall request all railroad companies transporting the mails to furnish, under seal, such data relating to the operating, receipts, and expenditures of such roads as may, in his judgment, be deemed necessary to enable him to ascertain the cost of mail transportation and the proper compensation to be paid for the same; and he shall, in his annual report to Congress, make such recommendations, founded on the information obtained under this section, as shall, in his opinion, be just and equitable.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Classification of mail matter.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 7, 1 Supp., 246.

Mailable matter shall be divided into four classes:

First, Written matter;

Second, Periodical publications;

Third, Miscellaneous printed matter;

Fourth, Merchandise.

Approved March 3, 1879.

First-class matter.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 8, 1 Supp., 246.

—defined.

Mailable matter of the first class shall embrace letters, postal cards, and all matters wholly or partly in writing, except as hereinafter provided.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Soldiers', sailors', and marines' letters.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 9, 1 Supp., 246.

—transmission of unpaid.

The Postmaster-General may * * * provide, by regulation, for transmitting unpaid and duly certified letters of soldiers, sailors, and marines in the service of the United States to their destination, to be paid on delivery.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Rate of postage on postal cards.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 9, 1 Supp., 246.

Postal cards shall be transmitted through the mails at a postage charge of one cent each, including the cost of manufacture.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Second-class matter.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 10, 1 Supp., 246.

—defined.

Mailable matter of the second class shall embrace all newspapers and other periodical publications which are issued at stated intervals and as frequently as four times a year and are within the conditions named in sections twelve and fourteen (of this act).

Approved March 3, 1879.

Examination at mailing office.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 12, 1 Supp., 246.

SEC. 12. Matter of the second class may be examined at the office of mailing, and if found to contain matter which is subject to a higher rate of postage, such matter shall be charged with postage at the rate to which the inclosed matter is subject: *Provided*, That

nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prohibit the insertion in periodicals of advertisements attached permanently to the same.

—for matter subject to higher rate of postage.

Approved March 3, 1879.

SEC. 14. The conditions upon which a publication shall be admitted to the second class are as follows:

Conditions for admission as second-class matter.

First.—It must regularly be issued at stated intervals, as frequently as four times a year, and bear a date of issue, and be numbered consecutively.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 14, 1 Supp., 246.

Regularity of issue.

Second.—It must be issued from a known office of publication.

Office of publication.

Third.—It must be formed of printed paper sheets, without board, cloth, leather, or other substantial binding, such as distinguish printed books for preservation from periodical publications.

Formation.

Fourth.—It must be originated and published for the dissemination of information of a public character, or devoted to literature, the sciences, arts, or some special industry, and having a legitimate list of subscribers: *Provided, however,* That nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to admit to the second-class rate regular publications designed primarily for advertising purposes, or for free circulation, or for circulation at nominal rates.

Character of contents.

Subscription list.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Foreign newspapers and other periodicals of the same general character as those admitted to the second class in the United States may, under the direction of the Postmaster-General, on application of the publishers thereof or their agents, be transmitted through the mails at the same rates as if published in the United States. Nothing in this act shall be so construed as to allow the transmission through the mails of any publication which violates any copyright granted by the United States.

Foreign publications.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 15, 1 Supp., 247.

—entry of.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Publishers of matter of the second class may, without subjecting it to extra postage, fold within their regular issues a supplement; but in all cases the added matter must be germane to the publication which it supplements, that is to say, matter supplied in order to complete that to which it is added or supplemented, but omitted from the regular issue for want of space, time, or greater convenience, which supplement must in every case be issued with the publication.

Supplements.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 16, 1 Supp., 247.

—admitted as second-class matter.

—must be germane to publication.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Mail matter of the third class shall embrace books, transient newspapers and periodicals, circulars, and other matter wholly in print (not included in section twelve of this act), proof sheets, corrected proof sheets, and manuscript copy accompanying the same, and postage shall be paid at the rate of one cent for each two ounces or fractional part thereof, and shall fully be prepaid by postage stamps affixed to said matter.

Third-class matter.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 17, 1 Supp., 247.

—defined.

—rate of postage on.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Collection of
duty on books.
1879, Mar.
3, ch. 180, §
17, 1 Supp.,
247.

* * * Books which are admitted to the international mails exchanged under the provisions of the Universal Postal Union Convention may, when subject to customs duty, be delivered to addresses in the United States under such regulations for the collection of duties as may be agreed upon by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster-General.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Circulars.
1879, Mar.
3, ch. 180, §
18, 1 Supp.,
247.
—definition
and character-
istics.

The term "circular" is defined to be a printed letter, which, according to internal evidence, is being sent in identical terms to several persons. A circular shall not lose its character as such, when the date and name of the addressee and of the sender shall be written therein, nor by the correction of mere typographical errors in writing.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Printed mat-
ter.
1879, Mar.
3, ch. 180,
§ 19, 1 Supp.,
247.
—defined.

"Printed matter" within the intendment of this act is defined to be the reproduction upon paper, by any process except that of handwriting, of any words, letters, characters, figures, or images, or of any combination thereof, not having the character of an actual and personal correspondence.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Postage on
matter of
fourth class.
1879, Mar.
3, ch. 180,
Part 2, § 21,
1 Supp., 248.
E x a m i -
nation.

All matter of the fourth class shall be subject to examination and to a postage charge at the rate of one cent an ounce or fraction thereof, to be prepaid by stamps affixed.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Delivery of
certain un-
mailable mat-
ter.
1879, Mar.
3, ch. 180,
Part 2, § 21,
1 Supp., 248.
—when reach-
ing office of
destination.
Name of
sender and
facts to be
reported.

* * * If any matter excluded from the mails by the preceding section (sec. 20) of this act, except that declared nonmailable by section thirty-eight hundred and ninety-three of the Revised Statutes as amended, shall, by inadvertance, reach the office of destination, the same shall be delivered in accordance with its address: *Provided*, That the party addressed shall furnish the name and address of the sender to the postmaster at the office of delivery, who shall immediately report the facts to the Postmaster-General. If the person addressed refuse to give the required information, the postmaster shall hold the package subject to the order of the Postmaster-General.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Unmailable
matter.
1879, Mar.
3, ch. 180,
Part 3, § 21,
1 Supp., 248.

* * * All matter declared nonmailable by section thirty-eight hundred and ninety-three of the Revised Statutes as amended, which shall reach the office of delivery, shall be held by the postmaster at the said office subject to the order of the Postmaster-General.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Packages
must admit of
examination.
1879, Mar.
3, ch. 180,
§ 24, 1 Supp.,
249.
—otherwise
postage to be at
first-class rate.

The Postmaster-General may prescribe, by regulation, the manner of wrapping and securing for the mails all packages of matter not charged with first-class postage, so that the contents of such packages may be easily examined; and no package the contents of which can not be easily examined shall pass in the mails or be delivered at a less rate than for matter of the first class.

Approved March 3, 1879.

That publications of the second class, one copy to each actual subscriber residing in the county where the same are printed, in whole or in part, and published, shall go free through the mails; but the same shall not be delivered at letter-carrier offices, or distributed by carriers, unless postage is paid thereon at the rate prescribed in section thirteen of this act (the cent-a-pound rate) : *Provided*, That the rate of postage on newspapers, excepting weeklies, and periodicals not exceeding two ounces in weight, when the same are deposited in a letter-carrier office for delivery by its carriers, shall be uniform at one cent each; periodicals weighing more than two ounces shall be subject, when delivered by such carriers, to a postage of two cents each, and these rates shall be prepaid by stamps affixed.

Approved March 3, 1879.

That all mail matter of the first class upon which one full rate of postage has been prepaid shall be forwarded to its destination, charged with the unpaid rate, to be collected on delivery; but postmasters, before delivering the same, or any article of mail matter upon which prepayment in full has not been made, shall affix, or cause to be affixed, and canceled, as ordinary stamps are canceled, one or more stamps equivalent in value to the amount of postage due on such article of mail matter, which stamps shall be of such special design and denomination as the Postmaster-General may prescribe, and which shall in no case be sold by any postmaster nor received by him in prepayment of postage.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Any postmaster or other person engaged in the postal service who shall collect, and fail to account for, the postage due upon any article of mail matter which he may deliver, without having previously affixed and canceled such special stamps, as hereinbefore provided, or who shall fail to affix such stamp, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of fifty dollars.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Any person who shall use, or attempt to use, in payment of postage, any canceled postage-stamp or postage-stamps, whether the same have been before used or not, or who shall by any means remove, or attempt to remove, or assist in removing, marks from any postage-stamp or postage-stamps, with intent to use the same in payment of postage, or who knowingly shall have in his possession any postage-stamp or postage-stamps canceled, with intent to use the same, or from which such cancellation marks have been removed, or who shall sell or offer to sell any such stamp or stamps, or who shall use or attempt to use the same in payment of postage, or who shall remove the superscription from any stamped envelope or postal card that has once been used in the payment of postage, with intent to again use the same for a like purpose, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by imprisonment for not less than six months nor more than one year, or by a fine of not less than one hundred

Free county matter and rates on second-class matter at letter-carrier offices. 1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 25, 1 Supp., 249. See R. S., § 3907.

First class matter, insufficiently prepaid—Act Mar. 3, 1879, ch. 180, 20 Stat. L., 361, § 26. —transmitted and deficiency collected, when.

—postage due stamps.

Failure to collect or account for postage due. 1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 27, 1 Supp., 249.

—penalty.

Unlawful use of stamps, and removal of canceling marks therefrom. 1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 28, 1 Supp., 249.

—penalty.

dollars nor more than five hundred dollars for each offense, or by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

Approved March 3, 1879.

New sureties on contracts.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 30, 1 Supp., 250.

The Postmaster-General, whenever he may deem it consistent with the public interest, may accept or require new surety upon any contract existing or hereafter made for carrying the mails, in substitution for and release of any existing surety.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Compensation of acting postmasters.

1879, Mar. 3, ch. 180, § 31, 1 Supp., 250.

—to be regular compensation of office.

Any person performing the duties of postmaster, by authority of the President, at any post-office where there is a vacancy for any cause, shall receive for the term for which the duty is performed the same compensation to which he would have been entitled if regularly appointed and confirmed as such postmaster.

* * *

Approved March 3, 1879.

Letter sheet envelopes.

Act Mar. 3, 1879, ch. 180, § 32, 20 Stat. L., 362.

—double postal cards.

That the Postmaster-General is hereby authorized to take the necessary steps to introduce and furnish for public use a letter-sheet envelope, on which postage stamps of the denominations now in use on ordinary envelopes shall be placed. And the Postmaster-General is also authorized to introduce and furnish for public use a double postal card, on which shall be placed two one-cent stamps, and said card to be so arranged for the address that it may be forwarded and returned, said cards to be sold for two cents apiece; and also to introduce and furnish for public use a double-letter envelope, on which stamps of the denominations now in use may be placed, and with the arrangement for the address similar to the double postal card; said letter sheet and double postal card and double envelope to be issued under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe: *Provided*, That the appropriation for postal cards and letter envelopes for the years ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-nine and eighteen hundred and eighty, shall be available for the purchase of said letter-sheet envelopes, double or return postal cards, and double letter envelopes: *And provided*, That no money shall be paid for royalty or patent on any of the articles named.

Approved March 3, 1879.

Conspiracy to defraud the United States or violate statutes.

1879, May 17, ch. 8, 1 Supp., 264.

—penalty.

If two or more persons conspire either to commit any offense against the United States or to defraud the United States in any manner or for any purpose, and one or more of such parties do any act to effect the object of the conspiracy, all the parties to such conspiracy shall be liable to a penalty of not more than ten thousand dollars, or to imprisonment for not more than two years or to both fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.

Approved May 17, 1879.

Expedition of service.

—limitation upon compensation for.

1880, Apr. 7, ch. 48, § 2, 1 Supp., 280.

The Postmaster-General shall not hereafter have the power to expedite the service under any contract either now existing or hereafter given to a rate of pay exceeding fifty per centum upon the contract as originally let.

Approved April 7, 1880.

The Postmaster-General is hereby authorized to furnish and issue to the public postal cards with postage stamps impressed upon them, for circulation in the mails exchanged with foreign countries under the provisions of the Universal Postal Union Convention * * * at a postage charge of two cents each, including the cost of their manufacture.

Approved June 11, 1880.

Postal cards
for circulation
in foreign
mails.
1880, June
11, ch. 206, 1
Supp., 296.
—to be sold at
two cents
apiece.

That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appropriated for the service of the Post-Office Department for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-one, out of any money in the Treasury arising from the revenues of said Department, in conformity to the act of July second, eighteen hundred and thirty-six, as follows:

Post-office in-
spectors.
21 Stat. L.,
177, June 11,
1880, ch. 206.

OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.—For mail depredations and post-office inspectors, including amounts necessary for fees to United States marshals and attorneys, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. And not exceeding five thousand dollars of this amount may be expended for fees to United States attorneys, marshals, clerks of courts, and counsel necessarily employed by post-office inspectors of the Post-Office Department, subject to approval by the Attorney-General; and the superintendent of railway mail service and the chief of post-office inspectors shall be paid their actual expenses while traveling on the business of the Department; and section four thousand and seventeen of the Revised Statutes is hereby so amended as to insert in lieu of the words "special agents" and the word "agents," wherever they occur in said section, the words "post-office inspectors."

Traveling ex-
penses.

NOTE.—Post-office inspectors were originally known as "special agents." This designation was changed by the act of June 11, 1880.

Note.

Post-office inspectors appointed under this statute are designated as "inspectors in the field." Any number of such inspectors may be appointed within the limit of the annual appropriations "for mail depredations and post-office inspectors."

Post-office in-
spectors.

Sec. 4020, R. S., as amended by act of March 3, 1897, ch. 385, 2 Supp. R. S., 598, provides that "the salary and per diem of the special agent (post-office inspector) detailed" for the free-delivery service shall be charged to the appropriation for that service. This statute is no longer of any effect, as no inspector has been specially detailed for the free-delivery service for some time, and for years past a special appropriation has been provided for the payment of inspectors. The only change made by the amendment of March 3, 1897, was to omit a provision relative to payment of inspectors detailed for the money-order service out of the proceeds of that service.

Approved June 11, 1880.

The chief of post-office inspectors shall be paid (his) actual expenses while traveling on the business of the Department.

Expenses of
chief inspect-
or.

Approved March 1, 1881.

1881, Mar. 1,
ch. 96, 1 Supp.,
319.

Failure to provide cars and to properly equip.
1881, Mar. 1, ch. 96, 1 Supp., 319.
—penalty for.

* * * When any railroad company fail or refuse to provide railway post-office cars when required by the Post-Office Department, or shall fail or refuse to provide suitable safety heaters and safety lamps therefor, with such number of saws and axes to each car for use in case of accident as may be required by the Post-Office Department, said company shall have its pay reduced ten per centum on the rates fixed (by law). * * *

Approved March 1, 1881.

General mail lettings.
1881, Mar. 1, ch. 96, 1 Supp., 319.
—advertisement of.

The Postmaster-General shall cause advertisements of all general mail lettings of each State and Territory to be conspicuously posted in each post-office in the State and Territory embraced in said advertisements for at least sixty days before the time of such general letting; and no other advertisement of such lettings shall be required; but this provision shall not apply to any other than general mail lettings.

Approved March 1, 1881.

Traveling expenses of general superintendent.
1881, Mar. 1, ch. 96, 1 Supp., 319.

The (general) superintendent of railway mail service * * * shall be paid * * * (his) actual expenses while traveling on the business of the Department.

Approved March 1, 1881.

Special grant of franking privilege.
Lucretia R. Garfield.
1881, Dec. 20, ch. 1, 22 Stat. L., 1.

All mail matter carried by post to Lucretia R. Garfield, widow of the late James A. Garfield, or sent by her, under her written autograph signature, will be conveyed free of postage during her natural life.

Approved December 20, 1881.

Subletting for less than contract price.
1882, May 4, ch. 116, 1 Supp., 338.

Whenever any contractor or subcontractor shall sublet his contract for the transportation of the mail on any route for a less sum than that for which he contracted to perform the service, the Postmaster-General may, whenever he shall deem it for the good of the service, declare the original contract at an end, and enter into a contract with the last subcontractor, without advertising, to perform the service on the terms at which the last subcontractor agreed with the original contractor or former subcontractor to perform the same: *Provided*, That such last subcontractor shall enter into a good and sufficient bond and that the original contractor shall not be released from his contract until a good and sufficient bond has been made by such last subcontractor and accepted by the Post-Office Department: *Provided further*, That when a contract hereafter made is declared void on account of its having been sublet, the contractor shall not be entitled to one month's extra pay as provided for by law.

Approved May 4, 1882.

Liens upon pay of contractors and subcontractors.
1882, May 4, ch. 116, 1 Supp., 339.
—persons performing service to have.

If any person shall hereafter perform any service for any contractor or subcontractor in carrying the mail, he shall, upon filing in the Department his contract for such service, and satisfactory evidence of its performance thereafter, have a lien on any money due such contractor or subcontractor for such service to the amount of the same; and if such contractor or subcontractor shall fail to pay the party or parties who have performed service as aforesaid the amount due for such service within two months

after the expiration of the quarter in which such service shall have been performed, the Postmaster-General may cause the amount to be paid said party or parties and charged to the contractor, provided that such payment shall not in any case exceed the rate of pay per annum of the contractor or subcontractor.

Approved May 4, 1882.

* * * Where any person, corporation, or partnership shall have contracts for the performance of mail service upon more than one route, and any failure to perform the service according to contract on any one or more of such routes shall occur, no payment shall be made for service on any of the routes under contract with such person, corporation, or partnership until such failure has been removed and all penalties therefor fully satisfied.

Approved May 4, 1882.

Persons in the railway mail service, known as railway post-office clerks, route agents, local agents, and mail-route messengers, shall be designated as railway postal clerks, and (be) divided into five classes, whose salaries shall not exceed the following rates per annum:

First class, not exceeding eight hundred dollars;

Second class, not exceeding nine hundred dollars;

Third class, not exceeding one thousand dollars;

Fourth class, not exceeding one thousand two hundred dollars;

And fifth class, not exceeding one thousand four hundred dollars:

Provided, That the Postmaster-General, in fixing the salaries of clerks in the different classes, may fix different salaries for clerks of the same class, according to the amount of work done and the responsibility incurred by each, but shall not, in any case, allow a higher salary to any clerk of any class than the maximum fixed by this act for the class to which such clerk belongs.

Approved July 31, 1882.

Appointments of letter carriers in cities having two or more classes shall be made to the class having the minimum rate of pay, and promotions from the lower grades in said cities shall be made to the next higher grade at the expiration of one year's service, on certificate of the postmaster to the efficiency and faithfulness of the candidate during the preceding year. * * *

Approved August 2, 1882.

* * * The Postmaster-General * * * is authorized to appoint one or more substitute letter carriers, whose compensation shall be one dollar per annum, and the pro rata compensation of the carriers whose routes they may be required to serve.

Approved August 2, 1882.

The Postmaster-General is hereby authorized, in cases where the mail service would be thereby improved, to extend service on a mail route under contract, at not exceeding pro rata additional pay, for any distance not exceeding twenty-five miles beyond either terminal point named in said contract: *Provided*, That no service shall be extended beyond the original terminal points more than once during the term for which the contract shall have been made.

Approved August 3, 1882.

Pay of contractors, —withholding of, when, 1882, May 4, ch. 116, 1 Supp., 339.

Railway postal clerks, 1882, July 31, ch. 361, 1 Supp., 362. See R. S., § 4024.

—classification and salaries.

Clerks in same class may be paid different salaries.

Appointments and promotions of carriers, 1882, Aug. 2, ch. 373, § 4, 1 Supp., 363. —how made.

Substitute carriers, 1882, Aug. 2, ch. 373, § 4, 1 Supp., 363. —appointment of, and compensation.

Extension of service on route under contract, 1882, Aug. 3, ch. 379, § 1, 1 Supp., 372. —compensation for, —limited.

Temporary service.

1882, Aug. 3, ch. 379, § 2, 1 Supp., 372.

—where contractor fails to perform service.

—cost of, limited.

—cost of, to be charged to contractor.

Whenever a contractor for postal service fails to commence proper service under the contract, or, having commenced service, fails to continue in the proper performance thereof, the Postmaster-General may employ temporary service on the route, at a rate of pay per annum not to exceed the amount of the bond required to accompany proposals for service on such route, as specified in the advertisement of the route, or at not exceeding pro rata of such bond, in cases where service shall have been ordered to be increased, reduced, curtailed, or changed, subsequent to the execution of contract; the cost of such temporary service to be charged to the contractor, and to continue until the contractor commences or resumes the proper performance of service, or until the route can be relet, as now provided by law, and service commenced under the new award of contract. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act being hereby repealed.

Approved August 3, 1882.

Employment in departmental service.

1882, Aug. 5, ch. 389, § 4, 1 Supp., 374.

—only as appropriated for.

No civil officer, clerk, draughtsman, copyist, messenger, assistant messenger, mechanic, watchman, laborer, or other employee shall * * * be employed in any of the Executive Departments or subordinate bureaus or offices thereof at the seat of government, except only at such rates and in such numbers, respectively, as may be specifically appropriated for by Congress for such clerical and other personal services for each fiscal year; and no civil officer, clerk, draughtsman, copyist, messenger, assistant messenger, mechanic, watchman, laborer, or other employee shall hereafter be employed at the seat of government in any Executive Department or subordinate bureau or office thereof or be paid from any appropriation made for contingent expenses or for any specific or general purpose, unless such employment is authorized and payment therefor specifically provided in the law granting the appropriation, and then only for services actually rendered in connection with and for the purposes of the appropriation from which payment is made, and at the rate of compensation usual and proper for such services.

Approved August 5, 1882.

Classified civil service.

1883, Jan. 16, ch. 27, § 6, 1 Supp., 395.

* * * It shall be the duty of the Postmaster-General to separately arrange in classes the several clerks and persons employed, or in the public service, at each post-office, or under any postmaster of the United States, where the whole number of said clerks and persons shall together amount to as many as fifty. And * * * from time to time, on the direction of the President, it shall be the duty of the Postmaster-General to arrange in like classes the clerks and persons so employed in the postal service in connection with any other post-office; and every such arrangement and classification upon being made shall be reported to the President.

Approved January 16, 1883.

—to be revised, when.

1883, Jan. 16, ch. 27, § 6, 1 Supp., 395.

From time to time * * * the Postmaster-General * * * shall, on the direction of the President, and for facilitating the execution of this act, respectively revise any then existing classification or arrangement of those in their respective departments and offices, and shall, for the purposes of the examination herein

provided for, include in one or more of such classes, so far as practicable, subordinate places, clerks, and officers in the public service pertaining to their respective departments not before classified for examination.

Approved January 16, 1883.

* * * No officer or clerk shall be appointed, and no person shall be employed to enter or be promoted in either of the said classes now existing, or that may be arranged hereunder pursuant to said rules, until he has passed an examination, or is shown to be specially exempted from such examination in conformity herewith. But nothing herein contained shall be construed to take from those honorably discharged from the military or naval service any preference conferred by the seventeen hundred and fifty-fourth section of the Revised Statutes, nor to take from the President any authority not inconsistent with this act conferred by the seventeen hundred and fifty-third section of said statutes; nor shall any officer not in the executive branch of the Government, or any person merely employed as a laborer or workman, be required to be classified hereunder; nor, unless by direction of the Senate, shall any person who has been nominated for confirmation by the Senate be required to be classified or to pass an examination.

Appoint-
ments.
1883, Jan. 16,
ch. 27, § 7, 1
Supp., 395.
—civil-service
examination
for.

—exceptions.

Approved January 16, 1883.

No Senator, or Representative, or Territorial Delegate of the Congress, or Senator, Representative, or Delegate elect, or any officer or employee of either of said houses, and no executive, judicial, military, or naval officer of the United States, and no clerk or employee of any department, branch, or bureau of the executive, judicial, or military or naval service of the United States, shall, directly or indirectly, solicit or receive, or be in any manner concerned in soliciting or receiving, any assessment, subscription, or contribution for any political purpose whatever, from any officer, clerk, or employee of the United States, or any department, branch, or bureau thereof, or from any person receiving any salary or compensation from moneys derived from the Treasury of the United States.

Officers and
employees for-
bidden to sol-
licit or receive
contributions
from other offi-
cers or em-
ployees.
1883, Jan.
16, ch. 27, §
11, 1 Supp.,
395.

Approved January 16, 1883.

No person shall, in any room or building occupied in the discharge of official duties by any officer or employee of the United States mentioned in this act, or in any navy-yard, fort, or arsenal, solicit in any manner whatever, or receive any contribution of money or any other thing of value for any political purpose whatever.

Political con-
tributions not
to be solicited
in public of-
fices, etc.
1883, Jan.
16, ch. 27, § 12,
1 Supp., 396.

Approved January 16, 1883.

No officer or employee of the United States mentioned in this act shall discharge, or promote, or degrade, or in any manner change the official rank or compensation of any other officer or employee, or promise or threaten so to do, for giving or withholding or neglecting to make any contribution of money or other valuable thing for any political purpose.

Immunity
from official
compulsion to
make political
contributions.
1883, Jan.
16, ch. 27, § 13,
1 Supp., 396.

Approved January 16, 1883.

Political contributions to officers or employees forbidden.

1883, Jan. 16, ch. 27, § 14, 1 Supp., 396.

No officer, clerk, or other person in the service of the United States shall, directly or indirectly, give or hand over to any other officer, clerk, or person in the service of the United States, or to any Senator or Member of the House of Representatives, or Territorial Delegate, any money or other valuable thing on account of or to be applied to the promotion of any political object whatever.

Approved January 16, 1883.

Penalty for violation of four preceding sections.

1883, Jan. 16, ch. 27, § 16, 1 Supp., 396.

Any person who shall be guilty of violating any provision of the four foregoing sections shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years, or by such fine and imprisonment both, in the discretion of the court.

Approved January 16, 1883.

Blank forms, etc., for the money-order service.

1883, Mar. 3, ch. 123, § 2, 1 Supp., 405.

See R. S., § 4048.

—proposals for furnishing.

—contracts for.

—estimates for furnishing by Public Printer and Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

All blanks, blank books, and printed or engraved matter supplied to postmasters by the Postmaster-General or used in his Department for the transaction of money-order business shall be obtained from the lowest responsible bidders for furnishing printed and engraved matter, respectively, under separate advertisements calling for proposals to furnish the same for a period of four years upon such conditions as the Postmaster-General may prescribe: *Provided*, That the Public Printer and the Chief (Director) of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing of the Treasury Department shall submit, respectively, estimates of the cost of furnishing such printed and engraved matter as may be required for use in the money-order business, and they shall furnish such printed and engraved matter whenever upon their estimates of cost the expenditure therefor will be less than upon proposals made as above provided for.

Approved March 3, 1883.

Salaries of postmasters at offices of the first, second, and third classes.

1883, Mar. 3, ch. 142, 1 Supp., 417.

See R. S., §§ 3852-3856.

—how fixed.

The respective compensation of postmasters of the first, second, and third classes shall be annual salaries, assigned in even hundreds of dollars, and payable in quarterly payments, to be ascertained and fixed by the Postmaster-General from their respective quarterly returns to the Auditor for the Post-Office Department, or copies or duplicates thereof, to be forwarded to the First Assistant Postmaster-General, for four quarters immediately preceding the adjustment, at the following rates, namely:

FIRST CLASS.

—first class.

Gross receipts, forty thousand dollars, and not exceeding forty-five thousand dollars, salary, three thousand dollars.

Gross receipts, forty-five thousand dollars, and not exceeding sixty thousand dollars, salary, three thousand one hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, sixty thousand dollars, and not exceeding eighty thousand dollars, salary, three thousand two hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, eighty thousand dollars, and not exceeding one hundred and ten thousand dollars, salary, three thousand three hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, one hundred and ten thousand dollars, and not exceeding one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, salary, three thousand four hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and not exceeding two hundred thousand dollars, salary, three thousand five hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, two hundred thousand dollars, and not exceeding two hundred and sixty thousand dollars, salary, three thousand six hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, two hundred and sixty thousand dollars, and not exceeding three hundred and thirty thousand dollars, salary, three thousand seven hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, three hundred and thirty thousand dollars, and not exceeding four hundred thousand dollars, salary, three thousand eight hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, four hundred thousand dollars, and not exceeding four hundred and fifty thousand dollars, salary, three thousand nine hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, four hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and not exceeding five hundred thousand dollars, salary, four thousand dollars.

Gross receipts, five hundred thousand dollars, and not exceeding six hundred thousand dollars, salary, five thousand dollars.

Gross receipts, six hundred thousand dollars and upwards, salary, six thousand dollars.

SECOND CLASS.

Gross receipts, eight thousand dollars, and not exceeding nine thousand dollars, salary, two thousand dollars. Second class.

Gross receipts, nine thousand dollars, and not exceeding ten thousand dollars, salary, two thousand one hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, ten thousand dollars, and not exceeding eleven thousand dollars, salary, two thousand two hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, eleven thousand dollars, and not exceeding thirteen thousand dollars, salary, two thousand three hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, thirteen thousand dollars, and not exceeding sixteen thousand dollars, salary, two thousand four hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, sixteen thousand dollars, and not exceeding twenty thousand dollars, salary, two thousand five hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, twenty thousand dollars, and not exceeding twenty-four thousand dollars, salary, two thousand six hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, twenty-four thousand dollars, and not exceeding thirty thousand dollars, salary, two thousand seven hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, thirty thousand dollars, and not exceeding thirty-five thousand dollars, salary, two thousand eight hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, thirty-five thousand dollars, and not exceeding forty thousand dollars, salary, two thousand nine hundred dollars.

THIRD CLASS.

Gross receipts, one thousand nine hundred dollars, and not exceeding two thousand one hundred dollars, salary, one thousand dollars. Third class.

Gross receipts, two thousand one hundred dollars, and not exceeding two thousand four hundred dollars, salary, one thousand one hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, two thousand four hundred dollars, and not exceeding two thousand seven hundred dollars, salary, one thousand two hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, two thousand seven hundred dollars, and not exceeding three thousand dollars, salary, one thousand three hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, three thousand dollars, and not exceeding three thousand five hundred dollars, salary, one thousand four hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, three thousand five hundred dollars, and not exceeding four thousand two hundred dollars, salary, one thousand five hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, four thousand two hundred dollars, and not exceeding five thousand dollars, salary, one thousand six hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, five thousand dollars, and not exceeding six thousand dollars, salary, one thousand seven hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, six thousand dollars, and not exceeding seven thousand dollars, salary, one thousand eight hundred dollars.

Gross receipts, seven thousand dollars, and not exceeding eight thousand dollars, salary, one thousand nine hundred dollars.

Approved March 3, 1883.

Certified
copies of re-
turns.
1883, March
3, ch. 142, § 1,
1 Supp., 419.
—may be re-
quired.

In order to ascertain the amount of the postal receipts of each office, the Postmaster-General may require postmasters to furnish the Department with certified copies of their quarterly returns to the auditor at such times and for such periods as he may deem necessary in each case.

Approved March 3, 1883.

Compensa-
tion of post-
masters at
fourth-class
offices.

1883, Mar. 3,
ch. 142, § 2, 1
Supp., 419.
See R. S., §§
3852-3856.

Commissions
on cancella-
tions.

—rates of.

The compensation of postmasters of the fourth class shall be fixed upon the basis of the whole of the box rents collected at their offices and commissions upon the amount of canceled postage-due stamps, and on postage stamps * * * stamped envelopes, postal cards, and newspaper and periodical stamps canceled, on matter actually mailed at their offices, and on amounts received from waste paper, dead newspapers, printed matter, and twine sold, at the following rates, namely:

On the first fifty dollars or less per quarter, one hundred per centum; on the next one hundred dollars or less per quarter, sixty per centum; on the next two hundred dollars or less per quarter, fifty per centum; and on all the balance, forty per centum, the same to be ascertained and allowed by the Auditor for the Post-Office Department in the settlement of the accounts of such postmasters upon their sworn quarterly returns:

Provided, That when the compensation of any postmaster of this class shall reach two hundred and fifty dollars for four consecutive quarters each, exclusive of commissions on money-order business, and when the returns to the Auditor for four consecutive quarters shall show him to be entitled to a compensation in excess

of two hundred and fifty dollars per quarter, the Auditor shall report such fact to the Postmaster-General, who shall assign the office to its proper class, and fix the salary of the postmaster as provided by section one of this act:

Assignment of office to higher class.

Provided further, That in no case shall there be allowed to any postmaster of this class a compensation greater than two hundred and fifty dollars in any one of the first three quarters of any fiscal year, exclusive of money-order commissions, and in the last quarter of any fiscal year there shall be allowed such further sum as he may be entitled to under the provisions of this act, not exceeding for the whole fiscal year the sum of one thousand dollars exclusive of money-order commissions.

Excess commissions in any quarter.

Approved March 3, 1883.

The Postmaster-General shall make all orders relative to the salaries of postmasters; * * * and the Auditor for the Post-Office Department shall be notified of any and all changes of salaries.

Readjustment of salaries of postmasters of first, second, and third classes.

1883, Mar. 3, ch. 142, § 3, 1 Supp., 419.

The salaries of postmasters of the first, second, and third classes shall be readjusted by the Postmaster-General, * * * to take effect * * * at the beginning of each fiscal year.

—when to be made. Id., § 4.

Approved March 3, 1883.

(Any order advancing an office of the fourth class to a higher class) shall not take effect until the first day of the quarter next following the order.

Orders assigning fourth-class offices to higher class.

1883, Mar. 3, ch. 142, § 3, 1 Supp., 419.

All public roads and highways while kept up and maintained as such are hereby declared to be post-routes.

Post-routes.—public roads and highways.

1884, Mar. 1, ch. 9, 1 Supp., 423.

Approved March 1, 1884.

Every person who, with intent to defraud either the United States or any person, falsely assumes or pretends to be an officer or employee acting under the authority of the United States, or any Department, or any officer of the Government thereof, and who shall take upon himself to act as such, or who shall in such pretended character demand or obtain from any person or from the United States, or any Department, or any officer of the Government thereof, any money, paper, document, or other valuable thing, shall be deemed guilty of felony, and shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or imprisonment not longer than three years, or both said punishments, in the discretion of the court.

False personation of United States officers.

1884, Apr. 18, ch. 26, 1 Supp., 425.

—penalty.

Approved April 18, 1884.

No Department or officer of the United States shall accept voluntary service for the Government or employ personal service in excess of that authorized by law except in cases of sudden emergency involving the loss of human life or the destruction of property.

Voluntary service forbidden.

1884, May 1, ch. 37, 1 Supp., 427.

Approved May 1, 1884.

Oath of office.
—general, as employed in Government.
1884, May 13, ch. 46, § 2, 1 Supp., 428.

The oath to be taken by any person elected or appointed to any office of honor or profit * * * in the civil * * * service * * * shall be as prescribed in section seventeen hundred and fifty-seven of the Revised Statutes.

Approved May 13, 1884.

Rate on transportation.
1884, June 9, ch. 73, 1 Supp., 438.
—when sent by others than publisher or news agent.

The rate of postage on newspaper and periodical publications of the second class, when sent by others than the publisher or news agent, shall be one cent for each four ounces or fractional part thereof, and shall be fully prepaid by postage stamps affixed to said matter.

Approved June 9, 1884.

Leaves of absence.
Letter carriers.
1884, June 27, ch. 126, 1 Supp., 446.

All letter-carriers at free-delivery offices shall be entitled to leave of absence, not to exceed fifteen days in each year, without loss of pay; * * *

Approved June 27, 1884.

Substitutes.
—in place of carriers on leave with pay.
1884, June 27, ch. 126, 1 Supp., 446.

* * * The Postmaster-General is hereby authorized to employ, when necessary, during the time such (fifteen days') leave of absence is granted (to a letter-carrier), such number of substitute letter-carriers as may be deemed advisable, who shall be paid for services rendered at the rate of six hundred dollars per annum.

Approved June 27, 1884.

Disbursing officers.
1884, July 5, ch. 234, 1 Supp., 467.
—postmasters may be designated as.

The Postmaster-General is authorized to designate postmasters at money-order post-offices as disbursing officers for the payment of the salaries of officers and employees of the postal service, and for such other payments as postmasters are now authorized to make from postal revenues.

Approved July 5, 1884.

Mails to be carried on fastest trains.
1884, July 5, ch. 234, 1 Supp., 467.

* * * If any railroad company shall fail or refuse to transport the mails, when required by the Post-Office Department, upon the fastest train or trains run upon said road, said company shall have its pay reduced fifty per centum of the amount provided by law.

Approved July 5, 1884.

Underpaid official matter at Washington.
1884, July 5, ch. 234, § 3, 1 Supp., 468.
—delivered free, except.

* * * Any part-paid letter or packet addressed to either of said Departments or bureaus (the Executive Departments or bureaus thereof and Public Printer) may be delivered free; but where there is good reason to believe the omission to prepay the full postage thereon was intentional, such letter or packet shall be returned to the sender.

Approved July 5, 1884.

Registration fee.
—letters and packets on official business of Executive Departments.
1884, July 5, ch. 234, § 3, 1 Supp., 468.

* * * Any letter or packet to be registered by either of the Executive Departments or bureaus thereof * * * or by the Public Printer, may be registered without the payment of any registry fee.

Approved July 5, 1884.

* * * Any Department or officer authorized to use the penalty envelopes may inclose them with return address to any person or persons from or through whom official information is desired, the same to be used only to cover such official information and indorsements relating thereto: * * *

Penalty envelopes.—return, may be used, when, 1884, July 5, ch. 234, § 3, 1 Supp., 468.

* * * This act shall not extend or apply to officers who receive a fixed allowance as compensation for their services, including expenses of postage. * * *

—not to be used by officers receiving allowances for postage. Id.

Approved July 5, 1884.

* * * (The Secretary of the Treasury shall, at the commencement of each session of Congress, report the amount due each claimant whose claim has been allowed in whole or in part to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Presiding Officer of the Senate, who shall lay the same before their respective Houses for consideration): *Provided*, That nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize the reexamination and payment of any claim or account which has been once examined and rejected, unless reopened in accordance with existing law.

Claims.—when allowed to be reported to Congress. 1884, July 7, ch. 334, 1 Supp., 470.

—rejected, not to be reopened, except.

NOTE.—The act of July 7, 1884, shown in parenthesis, is a substitute for the omitted paragraph of the act of June 14, 1878.

Note.

Approved July 7, 1884.

Postmasters (at offices of the first and second classes) are authorized, with the approval of the Postmaster-General, to assign at any time any clerk or employee of their respective post-offices to duty in any branch thereof.

Detail of clerks in post-offices. 1885, Mar. 3, ch. 342, 1 Supp., 483.

Approved March 3, 1885.

Whenever any building or part of a building under lease becomes unfit for use as a post-office, no rent shall be paid until the same shall be put in a satisfactory condition by the owner thereof for occupation as a post-office, or the lease may be canceled, at the option of the Postmaster-General; and a lease shall cease and terminate whenever a post-office can be moved into a Government building.

No rent to be paid under, when building unfit for use. 1885, Mar. 3, ch. 342, 1 Supp., 483.—lease to terminate, when.

Approved March 3, 1885.

* * * The Postmaster-General is authorized to contract for inland and foreign steamboat mail service, when it can be combined in one route, where the foreign office or offices are not more than two hundred miles distant from the domestic office, on the same terms and conditions as inland steamboat service, and pay for the same out of the appropriation for inland steamboat service.

Combined inland and foreign service. 1885, Mar. 3, ch. 342, 1 Supp., 483.—contracts for, when may be made.

Approved March 3, 1885.

All publications of the second class, except as provided in section 25 of said act (of March 3, 1879, ch. 180, 1 Supp., 249), when sent by the publisher thereof, and from the office of publication, including sample copies, or when sent from a news agency to actual subscribers thereto, or to other news agents, shall be entitled to transmission through the mails at one cent a pound or a fraction thereof, such postage to be prepaid as now provided by law.

Postage on second-class matter. 1885, Mar. 3, ch. 342, 1 Supp., 483.

Approved March 3, 1885.

Rate of postage on first-class matter.

1885, Mar. 3, ch. 342, 1 Supp., 483.
—drop letters.

Upon all matter of the first class, * * * postage shall be charged, * * * at the rate of two cents for each ounce or fraction thereof; and drop letters shall be mailed at the rate of two cents per ounce or fraction thereof, including delivery at letter-carrier offices, and one cent for each ounce or fraction thereof where free delivery by carrier is not established.

Approved March 3, 1885.

Special - delivery stamps.

1885, Mar. 3, ch. 342, § 3, 1 Supp., 484; 1886, Aug. 4, ch. 901, § 1, 1 Supp., 511.

—matter bearing, to be entitled to immediate delivery.

A special (delivery) stamp of the face valuation of ten cents may be provided and issued, whenever deemed advisable or expedient, in such form and bearing such device as may meet the approval of the Postmaster-General, which, when attached to * * * (mail matter) in addition to the lawful postage thereon, * * * (shall entitle such matter to immediate delivery, as provided in act of Aug. 4, 1886, ch. 901, sec. 1, 1 Supp., 511).

Approved March 3, 1885.

Record of special-delivery matter.

1885, Mar. 3, ch. 342, § 6, 1 Supp., 484.

The postmaster * * * (at every special-delivery post-office) shall keep a record of the number of * * * (articles) received at such office bearing such special (delivery) stamp.

Approved March 3, 1885.

Payment of messengers.

1885, Mar. 3, ch. 342, § 6, 1 Supp., 484.
—when made.
—amount of, not to exceed.

(Postmasters will), at the end of each month, * * * pay to such person or persons employed (as messengers) a sum not exceeding eighty per centum of the face value of all such (special-delivery) stamps (on the matter) received and recorded during that month: *Provided*, That in no case shall the compensation so paid to any one person exceed thirty dollars per month.

Approved March 3, 1885.

Special delivery of mail matter.

1886, Aug. 4, ch. 90, § 1, 1 Supp., 511; see 1900, June 2, ch. 613, 31 St. L., 260.

—postmasters responsible for.
—how made.
—compensation for.

(The postmaster shall be responsible for) * * * the immediate delivery of every * * * article (bearing a special-delivery stamp), and shall cause delivery to be made of all such articles received at his office bearing such stamp and entitled to delivery thereat, and may employ any persons, including clerks * * * (and other salaried employees at his office), as messengers on such terms as he shall fix as compensation for such delivery; and to defray the expense thereof such postmaster shall be entitled, upon the adjustment of his quarterly account, to eighty per cent of the face value of all such special-delivery stamps received at his office and recorded, according to said act and regulations of the Post-Office Department, during the quarter; and such allowance shall be in full of all the expenses of such delivery: * * *

Approved August 4, 1886.

Mail matter bearing special-delivery stamps.

1886, Aug. 4, ch. 901, § 1, 1 Supp., 511.
—immediate delivery of.

* * * Mailable matter upon which * * * (a) special (delivery) stamp * * * shall be duly affixed (in addition to the lawful postage thereon) shall be entitled to immediate delivery * * * within the carrier-delivery limit of any free-delivery office, and within one mile of any other post-office which the Postmaster-General shall at any time designate as a special-delivery post-office.

Approved August 4, 1886.

(The Postmaster-General) may contract for the immediate delivery of all articles (bearing special-delivery stamps) from any post-office at any price less than eight cents per piece, when he shall deem it expedient.

Approved August 4, 1886.

Contract for special delivery.
1886, Aug. 4,
ch. 901, § 1, 1
Supp., 512.
—may be made.

The Postmaster-General may, in his discretion, direct any free-delivery office to be excepted from the foregoing provision (concerning the delivery of special-delivery matter by postmasters' clerks or other persons), and require the delivery to be made entirely by special messengers, according to the provisions of the act to which this is amendatory.

Approved August 4, 1886.

Special-delivery messengers.
1886, Aug. 4,
ch. 901, § 1, 1
Supp., 512.
—at free-delivery offices.

The Postmaster-General shall prescribe suitable regulations, not inconsistent with the law, for the performance of the immediate-delivery service, the keeping of the records and rendering of accounts thereof, and all matters connected therewith, and may prescribe the hours within which such immediate delivery shall be made at any post-office.

Approved August 4, 1886.

Regulations for special-delivery service.
1886, Aug. 4,
ch. 901, § 2, 1
Supp., 512.
—Postmaster-General may prescribe.

That any postmaster, or any assistant postmaster, clerk, or employee of a postmaster, who shall make any false return or record of the receipt or delivery of any article of mailable matter as being stamped with a special-delivery stamp, or shall make any false return of the number of articles specially delivered from his office, for the purpose of increasing his compensation under the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned for a term of not less than thirty days nor more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court. * * *

Approved August 4, 1886.

False returns of special-delivery business.
1886, Aug. 4,
ch. 901, § 3, 1
Supp., 512.
—penalty.

* * * whenever, upon evidence deemed satisfactory to him, the Postmaster-General shall determine that any * * * false return (of the receipt or delivery of any article of mailable matter as being stamped with a special-delivery stamp, or of the number of articles specially delivered) has been made, he may, by order, fix absolutely the compensation of the postmaster for such special delivery during any quarter or quarters which he shall deem affected by such false return, and the Auditor shall adjust the postmaster's account accordingly.

Approved August 4, 1886.

False returns of special-delivery business.
1886, Aug. 4,
ch. 901, § 3, 1
Supp., 512.
—Postmaster-General may fix compensation when made.

Letter carriers shall be employed for the free delivery of mail matter, as frequently as the public business may require, at every incorporated city, village, or borough containing a population of fifty thousand within its corporate limits, and may be so employed at every place containing a population of not less than ten thousand, within its corporate limits, according to the last general census, taken by authority of State or United States law, or at any post-office which produced a gross revenue, for the preceding fiscal year, of not less than ten thousand dollars: *Provided*,

Free-delivery service.
1887, Jan. 3,
ch. 14, § 1, 1
Supp., 518.
—establishment of, when.

—discontinu-
ance of, when.

This act shall not affect the existence of the free delivery in places where it is now established: *And provided further*, That in offices where the free delivery shall be established under the provisions of this act, such free delivery shall not be abolished by reason of decrease below ten thousand in population or ten thousand dollars in gross postal revenue, except in the discretion of the Postmaster-General.

Approved January 3, 1887.

Classification and salaries of letter-carriers.

Cities over 75,000.

1887, Jan. 3, ch. 14, § 2, 1 Supp., 519.

Cities less than 75,000. Ib., § 3.

There may be in all cities which contain a population of seventy-five thousand or more three classes of letter-carriers, as follows: Carriers of the first class, whose salaries shall be one thousand dollars per annum; of the second class, whose salaries shall be eight hundred dollars per annum, and of the third class, whose salaries shall be six hundred dollars per annum.

In places containing a population of less than seventy-five thousand there may be two classes of letter-carriers, as follows: Carriers of the second class, whose salaries shall be eight hundred and fifty dollars per annum, and of the third class, whose salaries shall be six hundred dollars per annum.

Approved January 3, 1887.

Bulletins and reports of certain agricultural experiment stations.

1887, Mar. 2, ch. 314, § 4, 1 Supp., 551.
—may be sent free.

Bulletins or reports (of progress, one copy to each newspaper in the State or Territory in which the colleges hereafter referred to are located, and to such individuals actually engaged in farming as may request the same) and the annual reports (required by law to be published by the agricultural experiment stations established under the provisions of the act of March 2, 1887, entitled "An act to establish agricultural experiment stations in connection with the colleges established in the various States and Territories under the provisions of an act approved July 2, 1862, and the acts supplementary thereto" for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts) (*of said stations*) shall be transmitted in the mails of the United States free of charge for postage, under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may from time to time prescribe.

Approved March 2, 1887.

Authority for employment of mail-messenger service.

1887, Mar. 3, ch. 346, § 1 Supp., 557.

The Postmaster-General * * * is hereby authorized to employ such mail-messenger service as may be necessary for the carriage of the mails in connection with railroad and steamboat service, transfer service between depots, over bridges or ferries, between post-offices, post-offices and branch offices or stations, in cases where by the laws and regulations of the Post-Office Department, railroad companies, steamboat companies, and the masters of vessels are not required to deliver into and take from the post-offices the mails carried on their lines or vessels.

Approved March 3, 1887.

Settlement of accounts and on bonds, contracts, etc., in Court of Claims.

1887, Mar. 3, ch. 359, § 3, 1 Supp., 560.

Whenever any person shall present his petition to the Court of Claims alleging that he is or has been indebted to the United States as an officer or agent thereof, or by virtue of any contract therewith, or that he is the guarantor, or surety, or personal representative of any officer, or agent, or contractor so indebted, or that he, or the person for whom he is such surety, guarantor, or

personal representative has held any office or agency under the United States, or entered into any contract therewith, under which it may be or has been claimed that an indebtedness to the United States has arisen and exists, and that he or the person he represents has applied to the proper Department of the Government requesting that the account of such office, agency, or indebtedness may be adjusted and settled, and that three years have elapsed from the date of such application and said account still remains unsettled and unadjusted, and that no suit upon the same has been brought by the United States, said court shall, due notice first being given to the head of said Department and to the Attorney-General of the United States, proceed to hear the parties and to ascertain the amount, if any, due the United States on said account. The Attorney-General shall represent the United States at the hearing of said cause. The court may postpone the same from time to time whenever justice shall require. The judgment of said court or of the Supreme Court of the United States, to which an appeal shall lie, as in other cases, as to the amount due, shall be binding and conclusive upon the parties. The payment of such amount so found due by the court shall discharge such obligation. An action shall accrue to the United States against such principal, or surety, or representative to recover the amount so found due, which may be brought at any time within three years after the final judgment of said court. Unless suit shall be brought within said time, such claim and the claim on the original indebtedness shall be forever barred.

—may be had after three years, where can not be had from proper Department.

—final judgment to be conclusive.

Suit on judgment for amount found due.

Approved March 3, 1887.

No boxes for the collection of mail matter by carriers shall be placed inside of any building except a public building, or a building which is freely open to the public during business hours, or a railroad station.

Letter boxes. —not to be placed inside buildings except.

1887, Mar. 3, ch. 388, 1 Supp., 567.

Approved March 3, 1887.

Mailable matter of the second class shall contain no writing, print, or sign thereon or therein in addition to the original print, except as herein provided, to wit: the name and address of the person to whom the matter shall be sent, index figures of subscription book either printed or written, the printed title of the publication and the place of its publication, the printed or written name and address without addition of advertisement of the publisher or sender, or both, and written or printed words or figures, or both, indicating the date on which the subscription to such matter will end, the correction of any typographical error, a mark except by written or printed words, to designate a word or passage to which it is desired to call attention; the words "sample copy" when the matter is sent as such, the words "marked copy" when the matter contains a marked item or article. And publishers or news agents may inclose in their publications, bills, receipts, and orders for subscriptions thereto, but the same shall be in such form as to convey no other information than the name, place of publication, subscription price of the publication to which they refer and the subscription due thereon.

Permissible writing, printing, or additions on second-class matter.

1888, Jan. 20, ch. 2, § 1, 1 Supp., 577.

Approved January 20, 1888.

Permissible additions on third-class matter.

1888, Jan. 20, ch. 2, § 1, 1 Supp., 577.

—what are.

Upon matter of the third class or upon the wrapper or envelope inclosing the same or the tag or label attached thereto the sender may write his own name, occupation, and residence or business address, preceded by the word "from," and may make marks other than by written or printed words to call attention to any word or passage in the text, and may correct any typographical errors. There may be placed upon the blank leaves or cover of any book or printed matter of the third class a simple manuscript dedication or inscription not of the nature of a personal correspondence. Upon the wrapper or envelope of third-class matter or the tag or label attached thereto may be printed any matter available as third class, but there must be left on the address side a space sufficient for a legible address and necessary stamps.

Approved January 20, 1888.

Inclosing higher class in lower class matter.

1888, Jan. 20, ch. 2, § 1, 1 Supp., 578.

—penalty for.

Matter of the second, third, or fourth class containing any writing or printing in addition to the original matter other than as authorized in the preceding section (sec. 1) shall not be admitted to the mails, nor delivered, except upon payment of postage for matter of the first class, deducting therefrom any amount which may have been prepaid by stamps affixed, unless by direction of the Postmaster-General such postage shall be remitted; and any person who shall knowingly conceal or inclose any matter of a higher class in that of a lower class, and deposit or cause the same to be deposited for conveyance by mail, at a less rate than would be charged for both such higher and lower class matter, shall for every such offense be liable to a penalty of ten dollars.

Approved January 20, 1888.

Permissible additions to fourth-class matter.

1888, Jan. 20, ch. 2, § 1, 1 Supp., 578.

With a package of fourth-class matter prepaid at the proper rate for that class, the sender may inclose any mailable third-class matter, and may write upon the wrapper or cover thereof, or tag or label accompanying the same, his name, occupation, residence or business address, preceded by the word "from," and any marks, numbers, names, or letters for purpose of description, or may print thereon the same, and any printed matter not in the nature of a personal correspondence, but there must be left on the address side or face of the package a space sufficient for a legible address and necessary stamps.

Approved January 20, 1888.

Directions for transmission, delivery, etc., part of address.

1888, Jan. 20, ch. 2, § 1, 1 Supp., 578.

In all cases directions for transmit (transmission), delivery, forwarding, or return shall be deemed part of the address. * * *

Approved January 20, 1888.

Postmaster-General authorized to allow credit for certain losses.

1888, May 9, ch. 231, 1 Supp., 585.

The Postmaster-General * * * is hereby authorized to investigate all claims of postmasters for the loss of money-order funds, postal funds, postage stamps, stamped envelopes, newspaper wrappers, and postal cards, belonging to the United States in the hands of such postmasters, resulting from burglary, fire, or other unavoidable casualty, and if he shall determine that

—not due to negligence of postmasters.

such loss resulted from no fault or negligence on the part of such postmasters, to pay to such postmasters, or credit them with

the amount so ascertained to have been lost or destroyed, and also to credit postmasters with the amount of any remittance of money-order funds or postal funds made by them in compliance with the instructions of the Postmaster-General, which shall have been lost or stolen while in transit by mail from the office of the remitting postmaster to the office designated as his depository, or after arrival at such depository office and before the postmaster at such depository office has become responsible therefor: *Provided*, That no claim exceeding the sum of two thousand dollars shall be paid or credited until after the facts shall have been ascertained by the Postmaster-General and reported to Congress, together with his recommendation thereon, and an appropriation made therefor: *And provided further*, * * * that no claim for losses * * * shall be allowed unless presented within six months from the time the loss occurred.

It is hereby made the duty of the Postmaster-General to report his action herein to Congress annually, with his reasons therefor in each particular case.

Approved May 9, 1888.

* * * Eight hours shall constitute a day's work for letter-carriers in cities or postal districts connected therewith, for which they shall receive the same pay as is now paid as for a day's work of a greater number of hours. If any letter-carrier is employed a greater number of hours per day than eight he shall be paid extra for the same in proportion to the salary now fixed by law.

Approved May 24, 1888.

Any person who shall submit, or cause to be submitted to any postmaster or to the Post-Office Department or any officer of the postal service any false evidence, relative to the character of any publication, for the purpose of securing the admission thereof at the second-class rate for transportation in the mails, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and for every such offense, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars.

Approved June 18, 1888.

Any person who shall, with intent to defraud, falsely forge or counterfeit the signature of any postmaster, assistant postmaster, chief clerk, or clerk upon or to any money-order or postal note, or blank therefor provided or issued by or under the direction of the Post-Office Department of the United States or of any foreign country, and payable in the United States or any material signature or indorsement thereon, or any material signature to any receipt or certificate of identification thereon; any person who shall falsely alter, or cause or procure to be falsely altered in any material respect, or knowingly aid or assist in falsely so altering any such money-order or postal-note; any person who shall, with intent to defraud, pass, utter, or publish any such forged or altered money-order or postal-note knowing any material signature or indorsement thereon to be false, forged, or counterfeited, or any material alteration therein to have been falsely made; any

—in excess of \$2,000 to be reported to Congress.

See 1896, June 11, ch. 424, 2 Supp., 528 (limit increased to \$10,000).

Claims to be filed in six months.

Reports.

Hours of service.

1888, May 24, ch. 308, 1 Supp., 587.

—not to exceed eight a day.

—extra, pay for.

False evidence as to character of publication to secure entry as second-class.

1888, June 18, ch. 394, 1 Supp., 593.

—penalty for submitting.

Forging, counterfeiting, or unlawful issue of money orders.

1888, June 18, ch. 394, § 2, 1 Supp., 593.

Alteration of order.

Passing, etc., of forged or altered orders, etc.

Unlawful issue of orders.

postmaster, assistant postmaster, or clerk employed in any post-office or branch post-office who shall issue any money-order or postal-note, without having previously received or paid the full amount of money payable therefor, with the purpose of fraudulently obtaining or receiving, or fraudulently enabling any other person, either directly or indirectly, to obtain or receive from the United States, or any officer or agent thereof, the sum of money specified in such money-order or postal-note; any person who, with intent to defraud the United States, transmits, or presents to, or causes or procures to be transmitted to or presented to any officer, or at any office of the Government of the United States, any money-order or postal-note, knowing the same to contain any forged or counterfeited signature to the same or to any material indorsement, receipt, or certificate thereon, or material alteration therein unlawfully made, or to have been unlawfully issued without previous payment of the amount required to be paid upon such issue, shall, upon conviction, be punishable by fine of not more than five thousand dollars, or by imprisonment at hard labor for not less than one year and not more than five years.

Approved June 18, 1888.

Seeds, bulbs, plants, etc.

1888, July 24, ch. 702, 25 Stat. L., 347.
—postage on.

The postage on seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, scions, and plants shall be charged at the rate of one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof, subject in all other respects to the existing law.

Approved July 24, 1888.

Sureties, limit of liability.

—on bonds of officials of United States, etc., five years.
1888, Aug. 8, ch. 787, § 2, 1 Supp., 605.

If, upon the statement of the account of any official of the United States, or of any officer disbursing or chargeable with public money, by the accounting officers of the Treasury, it shall thereby appear that he is indebted to the United States, and suit therefor shall not be instituted within five years after such statement of said account, the sureties on his bond shall not be liable for such indebtedness.

Approved August 8, 1888.

Obscene matter.

1888, Sept. 26, ch. 1039, § 2, 1 Supp., 621.

Every obscene, lewd, or lascivious book, pamphlet, picture, paper, letter, writing, print, or other publication of an indecent character, and every article or thing designed or intended for the prevention of conception or procuring of abortion, and every article or thing intended or adapted for any indecent or immoral use, and every written or printed card, letter, circular, book, pamphlet, advertisement or notice of any kind giving information, directly or indirectly, where or how, or of whom, or by what means any of the hereinbefore mentioned matters, articles, or things may be obtained or made, whether sealed as first-class matter or not, are hereby declared to be nonmailable matter, and shall not be conveyed in the mails nor delivered from any post-office nor by any letter-carrier; and any person who shall knowingly deposit, or cause to be deposited, for mailing or delivery, anything declared by this section to be nonmailable matter, and any person who shall knowingly take the same, or cause the same to be taken, from the mails for the purpose of circulating or disposing of, or of aiding in the circulation or disposition of the same, shall, for

—nonmailable.

each and every offense, be fined upon conviction thereof not more than five thousand dollars, or imprisoned at hard labor not more than five years, or both, at the discretion of the court. And all offences committed under the section of which this is amendatory (R. S. § 3893, as amended by act of July 12, 1876, ch. 186), prior to the approval of this act, may be prosecuted and punished under the same in the same manner and with the same effect as if this act had not been passed: *Provided*, That nothing in this act shall authorize any person to open any letter or sealed matter of the first class not addressed to himself.

Approved September 26, 1888.

All matter otherwise mailable by law, upon the envelope or outside cover or wrapper of which, or any postal card upon which, any delineations, epithets, terms, or language of an indecent, lewd, lascivious, obscene, libelous, scurrilous, defamatory, or threatening character, or calculated by the terms or manner or style of display and obviously intended to reflect injuriously upon the character or conduct of another may be written or printed, or otherwise impressed or apparent, are hereby declared nonmailable matter, and shall not be conveyed in the mails, nor delivered from any post-office nor by any letter carrier, and shall be withdrawn from the mails under such regulations as the Postmaster-General shall prescribe; and any person who shall knowingly deposit, or cause to be deposited, for mailing or delivery, anything declared by this section to be nonmailable matter, and any person who shall knowingly take the same or cause the same to be taken from the mails, for the purpose of circulating or disposing of, or of aiding in the circulation or disposition of the same, shall, for each and every offense, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than five thousand dollars, or imprisoned at hard labor not more than five years, or both, at the discretion of the court.

Approved September 26, 1888.

* * * The omission by the sender to place the lawful postage upon a letter bearing such special-delivery stamp and otherwise entitled to immediate delivery under the provisions of this section (act of March 3, 1885, ch. 342, § 3), shall not hinder or delay the transmission and delivery thereof as provided herein, but such lawful postage shall be collected upon its delivery, in the manner now provided by law for the collection of deficient postage resulting from overweight of letters.

Approved January 16, 1889.

The Postmaster-General may conclude arrangements with the post departments of foreign governments with which postal conventions have been or may be concluded for the exchange, by means of postal orders, of small sums of money, not exceeding one hundred dollars in amount, at such rates of exchange * * * and under such rules and regulations as he may deem expedient; and the expenses of establishing and conducting such systems of exchange may be paid out of the proceeds of the money-order business.

Approved January 30, 1889.

—penalty for depositing in or taking from mails.

Scurrilous matter.
1888, Sept. 26, ch. 1039, § 3, 1 Supp., 621.
—nonmailable.

—withdrawal of, from mails.

—penalty for mailing or taking from mails to circulate.

Postage on special delivery letters.
—omission to pay on letters, not to delay transmission.
1889, Jan. 16, ch. 50, 1 Supp., 638.

Establishment of international money-order service.
1889, Jan. 30, ch. 100, 1 Supp., 638.
Conventions.
Fees.
Expenses.

Useless papers, 1889, Feb. 16, ch. 171, 1 Supp., 644; see 1881, Mar. 3, ch. 130, 1 Supp., 320.
—report thereof to Congress.

Whenever there shall be in any one of the Executive Departments of the Government an accumulation of files of papers, which are not needed or useful in the transaction of the current business of such Department and have no permanent value or historical interest, it shall be the duty of the head of such Department to submit to Congress a report of that fact, accompanied by a concise statement of the condition and character of such papers. And upon the submission of such report, it shall be the duty of the presiding officer of the Senate to appoint two Senators, and of the Speaker of the House of Representatives to appoint two Representatives, and the Senators and Representatives so appointed shall constitute a joint committee, to which shall be referred such report, with the accompanying statement of the condition and character of such papers, and such joint committee shall meet and examine such report and statement and the papers therein described, and submit to the Senate and House, respectively, a report of such examination and their recommendation. And if they report that such files of papers, or any part thereof, are not needed or useful in the transaction of the current business of such Department, and have no permanent value or historical interest, then it shall be the duty of such head of the Department to sell as waste paper, or otherwise dispose of such files of papers upon the best obtainable terms after due publication of notice inviting proposals therefor, and receive and pay the proceeds thereof into the Treasury of the United States, and make report thereof to Congress.

Approved February 16, 1889.

—sale of, etc., how authorized.

Classification and salaries of clerks at offices of the first class. 1889, Mar. 2, ch. 374, 1 Supp., 680.
Assistant postmasters.

The Postmaster-General * * * is hereby authorized to classify and fix the salaries of the clerks and employees attached to the first-class post-offices * * * as hereinafter provided.

Assistant postmaster, salary not exceeding fifty per centum of the salary of the postmaster, as provided by act of March third, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from one thousand five hundred dollars to not exceeding three thousand dollars per annum, except New York, New York, where the salary of the assistant postmaster shall be fixed at three thousand five hundred dollars per annum, and that of the second assistant postmaster at two thousand dollars per annum.

Secretaries and stenographers to postmaster.

Secretary and stenographer to postmaster, five classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from one thousand two hundred dollars to not exceeding one thousand six hundred dollars per annum.

Cashiers.

Cashier, five classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, at one thousand eight hundred dollars, two thousand dollars, two thousand two hundred dollars, two thousand four hundred dollars, and not exceeding two thousand six hundred dollars per annum.

Assistant cashiers.

Assistant cashier, three classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, at one thousand two hundred dollars, one thousand three hundred dollars, and not exceeding one thousand four hundred dollars per annum.

Finance clerks, bookkeepers.

Finance clerks, including bookkeepers, six classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from one thousand two hundred dollars to not exceeding one thousand seven hundred dollars per annum.

Stamp clerks, ten classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from eight hundred dollars to not exceeding one thousand seven hundred dollars per annum.

Stamp clerks.

* * * * *

Superintendents of mails, salary not exceeding forty-five per centum of the salary of the postmaster, as provided by the act of March third, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from one thousand three hundred dollars to not exceeding two thousand seven hundred dollars per annum, except at New York, New York, where the salary of the superintendent of mails shall be fixed at three thousand two hundred dollars per annum.

Superintendents of mails.

Assistant superintendent of mails, three classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, at one thousand two hundred dollars, one thousand three hundred dollars, and not exceeding one thousand four hundred dollars per annum.

Assistant superintendents of mails.

Superintendents of delivery, salary not exceeding forty-five per centum of the salary of the postmaster, as provided by the act of March third, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from one thousand three hundred dollars to not exceeding two thousand seven hundred dollars per annum, except at New York, New York, where the salary of the superintendent of delivery shall be fixed at three thousand two hundred dollars per annum.

Superintendents of delivery.

Assistant superintendents of delivery, three classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, at one thousand two hundred dollars, one thousand three hundred dollars, and not exceeding one thousand four hundred dollars per annum.

Assistant superintendents of delivery.

Superintendents of registry, salary not exceeding thirty-five per centum of the salary of the postmaster, as provided by the act of March third, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from one thousand dollars to not exceeding two thousand one hundred dollars per annum, except at New York, New York, Chicago, Illinois, and Washington, District of Columbia, where the salary of the superintendent of registry shall be fixed at not exceeding forty per centum of the salary of the postmaster, as provided by the act of March third, eighteen hundred and eighty-three.

Superintendents of registry.

—at New York, Chicago, Washington.

Assistant superintendents of registry, salary not exceeding twenty-five per centum of the salary of the postmaster, as provided by the act of March third, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from one thousand dollars to not exceeding one thousand five hundred dollars per annum, except at New York, New York, where the salary of the first and second assistant superintendents of registry shall be fixed at two thousand four hundred dollars and one thousand eight hundred dollars per annum, respectively.

Assistant superintendents of registry.

—New York.

Superintendent, money-order division, salary not exceeding forty per centum of the salary of the postmaster, as provided by the act of March third, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from one thousand dollars to not exceeding two thousand four hundred dollars per annum, except at New York, New York, where the salary of the superintendent of

Superintendents money-order division.

—at New York.

the money-order division shall be fixed at three thousand two hundred dollars per annum.

Assistant superintendents money-order divisions.

—at New York.

Assistant superintendent, money-order division, ten (eleven) classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from eight hundred dollars to not exceeding one thousand eight hundred dollars per annum, except at New York, New York, where the salary of the first and second assistant superintendents of money-order division and the chief bookkeeper shall be fixed at two thousand four hundred dollars, one thousand eight hundred dollars, and one thousand eight hundred dollars, respectively.

Superintendents of stations.

—at New York.

Superintendents of stations, ten (eleven) classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from one thousand dollars to not exceeding two thousand dollars per annum, except at New York, New York, where the salaries of the superintendents of Stations "A" and "D" shall be fixed at two thousand five hundred dollars each per annum, and superintendents of Stations "E" and "F" shall be fixed at two thousand two hundred dollars each per annum.

Clerks in charge of stations.

Clerks in charge of stations, nine classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from one hundred dollars to not exceeding nine hundred dollars per annum.

Foreman of working sections, etc.

Foremen of crews or working sections, six classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from nine hundred dollars to not exceeding one thousand four hundred dollars per annum.

Mailing clerks, etc.

Mailing clerks, letter distributors, dispatchers, registry, money order, directory, and nixie clerks, nine classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from six hundred dollars to not exceeding one thousand four hundred dollars per annum.

Separators, etc.

Separators and assorters, paper distributors, record clerks, general-delivery clerks, inquiry clerks, clerks for special-delivery mail, raters of third and fourth class mail matter, weighers of second-class mail matter, stock or supply clerks, and timekeepers, seven classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from six hundred dollars to not exceeding one thousand two hundred dollars per annum.

Stampers, etc.

Stampers and mail messengers, five classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from four hundred dollars to not exceeding eight hundred dollars per annum.

Printers.

Printers, four classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from nine hundred dollars to not exceeding one thousand two hundred dollars per annum.

Pressmen, messengers, etc.

Pressmen, messengers, watchmen, laborers, janitors, porters, firemen, carpenters, waste-paper examiners, and general-utility clerks, four classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from four hundred dollars to not exceeding seven hundred dollars per annum.

Auditor and draftsman, New York.

Auditor and draftsman at New York, New York, three thousand dollars and one thousand two hundred dollars per annum, respectively.

Approved March 2, 1889.

Classification of clerks in offices of the second class.

The Postmaster-General is hereby authorized to classify and fix the salaries of the clerks attached to second-class post-offices, * * * as hereinafter provided.

Chief clerk, nine classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from seven hundred dollars to not exceeding one thousand five hundred dollars per annum.

1889, Mar. 2,
ch. 374; 1
Supp. R. S.,
682.

Mailing clerks, letter distributors, dispatchers, registry clerks, stamp clerks, and money-order clerks, five classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from six hundred dollars to not exceeding one thousand dollars per annum.

Chief clerk.
Mailing
clerks, etc.

Separators and assorters, paper distributors, general-delivery clerks, and general-utility clerks, four classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from six hundred dollars to not exceeding nine hundred dollars per annum.

Separators,
etc.

Stampers, messengers, porters, janitors, and watchmen, four classes, salary, graded in even hundreds of dollars, from three hundred dollars to not exceeding six hundred dollars.

Stampers,
messengers,
etc.

Approved March 2, 1889.

No clerk or employee (in any post-office of the first or second class) shall be promoted or advanced in grade or salary without the approval of the Postmaster-General, * * * and postmasters at offices of the first and second classes shall submit rosters of the clerks attached to their respective offices to the Postmaster-General, to take effect from the first day of the fiscal year, * * * and no roster shall be considered in effect until approved by the Postmaster-General.

Clerks in first
and second
class post-offices not to be
changed without
approval of
Postmaster-
General.

1889, Mar. 2,
ch. 374; 1
Supp., 682.
Rosters.

Approved March 2, 1889.

The Postmaster-General may, when if in his judgment the good of the service so requires, make contract for necessary supplies for the free-delivery service for a period not exceeding four years.

Contracts
—supplies for
free delivery.

1889, Mar. 2,
ch. 374; 1
Supp., 682.

Approved March 2, 1889.

If any person having devised or intending to devise any scheme or artifice to defraud, or to sell, dispose of, loan, exchange, alter, give away, or distribute, supply, or furnish, or procure for unlawful use any counterfeit or spurious coin, bank notes, paper money, or any obligation or security of the United States or of any State, Territory, municipality, company, corporation, or person, or anything represented to be or intimated or held out to be such counterfeit or spurious articles, or any scheme or artifice to obtain money by or through correspondence, by what is commonly called the "sawdust swindle," or "counterfeit-money fraud," or by dealing or pretending to deal in what is commonly called "green articles," "green coin," "bills," "paper goods," "spurious Treasury notes," "United States goods," "green cigars," or any other names or terms intended to be understood as relating to such counterfeit or spurious articles, to be effected by either opening or intending to open correspondence or communication with any person, whether resident within or outside the United States, by means of the Post-Office Establishment of the United States, or by inciting such other person or any person to open communication with the person so devising or intending, shall, in and for executing such scheme or artifice or attempting so to do, place or cause to be placed, any letter, packet, writing, circular, pamphlet, or advertisement in any post-office, branch post-office, or street or hotel letter-box of the

Fraudulent
and green
goods schemes.

1889, Mar.
2, ch. 393, § 1,
1 Supp., 694.

—penalty for use of mails in conduct of.
—venue.
—indictment for.

—using fictitious names, etc., in promotion of.
Id., § 2.

—penalty.

Fictitious matter.
1889, Mar. 2, ch. 393, § 3, 1 Supp., 695.
Treatment of matter addressed to fictitious names, etc., for promotion of unlawful business.

Green goods, fraudulent and fictitious matter.
1889, Mar. 2, ch. 393, § 4, 1 Supp., 695.
—nonmailable.
—delivery of, from post-office, when.
Id., § 5.

United States, to be sent or delivered by the said Post-Office Establishment, or shall take or receive any such therefrom, such person so misusing the Post-Office Establishment shall, upon conviction, be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars and by imprisonment for not more than eighteen months, or by both such punishments, at the discretion of the court. The indictment, information, or complaint may severally charge offenses to the number of three when committed within the same six calendar months; but the court thereupon shall give a single sentence, and shall proportion the punishment especially to the degree in which the abuse of the Post-Office Establishment enters as an instrument into such fraudulent scheme and device.

2. Any person who, in and for conducting, promoting, or carrying on, in any manner by means of the Post-Office Establishment of the United States, any scheme or device mentioned in the preceding section, or any other unlawful business whatsoever, shall use or assume or request to be addressed by any fictitious, false, or assumed title, name, or address, or name other than his own proper name, or shall take or receive from any post-office of the United States any letter, postal card, or packet addressed to any such fictitious, false, or assumed title, name, or address, or name other than his own lawful and proper name, shall, upon conviction, be punishable as provided in the first section of this act.

3. The Postmaster-General may, upon evidence satisfactory to him, that any person is using any fictitious, false, or assumed name, title, or address in conducting, promoting, or carrying on, or assisting therein, by means of the Post-Office establishment of the United States, any business scheme or device in violation of the provisions of this act, instruct any postmaster at any post-office at which such letters, cards, or packets, addressed to such fictitious, false, or assumed name or address arrive to notify the party claiming or receiving such letters, cards, or packets to appear at the post-office and be identified; and if the party so notified fail to appear and be identified, or if it shall satisfactorily appear that such letters, cards, or packets are addressed to a fictitious, false, or assumed name or address, such letters, postal cards, or packages shall be forwarded to the dead-letter office as fictitious matter.

4. All matter the deposit of which in the mails is by this act made punishable is hereby declared nonmailable; but nothing in this act shall be so construed as to authorize any person other than an employee of the dead-letter office, duly authorized thereto, to open any letter not addressed to himself.

5. Whenever the Postmaster-General is satisfied that letters or packets sent in the mails are addressed to places not the residence or business address of the persons for whom they are intended, to enable such persons to escape identification, he may direct postmasters to deliver such letters only from the post-office upon identification of persons addressed.

Approved March 2, 1889.

The general superintendent, Railway Mail Service, the assistant general superintendent, Railway Mail Service, and the chief clerk, Railway Mail Service, shall be paid their necessary and actual expenses while traveling on the business of the Department.

Approved April 16, 1890.

Traveling expenses of officers, Railway Mail Service.
(1881, Mar. 1, ch. 96, 1 Supp., 319.)
1890, Apr. 16, ch. 85, 1 Supp., 715.

It shall be the duty of the heads of the several Executive Departments of the Government to report to Congress each year in the annual estimates the number of employees in each bureau and office, and the salaries of each who are below a fair standard of efficiency.

Approved July 11, 1890.

Report of employees in the Post-Office Department.
1890, July 11, ch. 667, § 2, 1 Supp., 773.
—below standard of efficiency.

* * * No officer, clerk, or employee of any executive department who is also a notary public or other officer authorized to administer oaths, shall charge or receive any fee or compensation for administering oaths of office to employees of such department required to be taken on appointment or promotion therein.

Approved August 29, 1890.

Clerks who are notaries public not to charge for administering oaths.
1890, Aug. 29, ch. 820, § 1, 1 Supp., 791.

The Chief Clerks of the several Executive Departments and of the various bureaus and offices thereof in Washington, District of Columbia, are hereby authorized and directed, on application and without compensation therefor, to administer oaths of office to employees required to be taken on their appointment or promotion.

Approved August 29, 1890.

Chief clerks of Departments may administer oaths.
1890, Aug. 29, ch. 820, § 1, 1 Supp., 791.

No letter, postal card, or circular concerning any lottery, so-called gift concert, or other similar enterprise offering prizes dependent upon lot or chance, or concerning schemes devised for the purpose of obtaining money or property under false pretenses, and no list of the drawings at any lottery or similar scheme, and no lottery ticket or part thereof, and no check, draft, bill, money, postal note, or money order for the purchase of any ticket, tickets, or part thereof, or of any share or any chance in any such lottery or gift enterprise, shall be carried in the mail or delivered at or through any post-office or branch thereof, or by any letter-carrier; nor shall any newspaper, circular, pamphlet, or publication of any kind containing any advertisement of any lottery or gift enterprise of any kind offering prizes dependent upon lot or chance, or containing any list of prizes awarded at the drawings of any such lottery or gift enterprise, whether said list is of any part or of all of the drawing, be carried in the mail or delivered by any postmaster or letter-carrier. Any person who shall knowingly deposit or cause to be deposited, or who shall knowingly send or cause to be sent, anything to be conveyed or delivered by mail in violation of this section, or who shall knowingly cause to be delivered by mail anything herein forbidden to be carried by mail, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment for each offense. Any person violating any of the provisions of this section may be proceeded against by information

Lotteries, gift concerts, etc.
1890, Sept. 19, ch. 908, 1 Supp., 803.

—matter relating to, unmailable.

—advertisements of, in newspapers, etc.

—penalty for mailing matter relating to.

Venue.

or indictment and tried and punished, either in the district at which the unlawful publication was mailed or to which it is carried by mail for delivery according to the direction thereon, or at which it is caused to be delivered by mail to the person to whom it is addressed.

Approved September 19, 1890.

Delivery of mail matter to person or concerns conducting lotteries or fraudulent enterprises, etc.

1890, Sept. 19, ch. 908, § 2, 1 Supp., 804.

—Postmaster-General may forbid, when.

The Postmaster-General may, upon evidence satisfactory to him that any person or company is engaged in conducting any lottery, gift enterprise, or scheme for the distribution of money, or of any real or personal property by lot, chance, or drawing of any kind, or that any person or company is conducting any other scheme or device for obtaining money or property of any kind through the mails by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, instruct postmasters at any post-offices at which registered letters arrive directed to any such person or company, or to the agent or representative of any such person or company, whether such agent or representative is acting as an individual or as a firm, bank, corporation, or association of any kind, to return all such registered letters to the postmaster at the office at which they were originally mailed, with the word "Fraudulent" plainly written or stamped upon the outside thereof; and all such letters so returned to such postmasters shall be by them returned to the writers thereof, under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe. But nothing contained in this section shall be so construed as to authorize any postmaster or other person to open any letter not addressed to himself. The public advertisement by such person, or company so conducting such lottery, gift enterprise, scheme, or device, that remittances for the same may be made by registered letters to any other person, firm, bank, corporation, or association named therein shall be held to be prima facie evidence of the existence of said agency by all the parties named therein; but the Postmaster-General shall not be precluded from ascertaining the existence of such agency in any other legal way satisfactory to himself.

Approved September 19, 1890.

Sealed matter not to be opened.

Public advertisement evidence of agency.

The Postmaster-General may, upon evidence satisfactory to him that any person or company is engaged in conducting any lottery, gift enterprise, or scheme for the distribution of money, or of any real or personal property by lot, chance, or drawing of any kind, or that any person or company is conducting any other scheme or device for obtaining money or property of any kind through the mails by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, forbid the payment by any postmaster to said person or company of any postal money-orders drawn to his or its order or in his or its favor or to the agent of any such person or company, whether such agent is acting as an individual or as a firm, bank, corporation, or association of any kind, and may provide by regulation for the return to the remitters of the sums named in such money-orders. But this shall not authorize any person to open any letter not addressed to himself. The public advertisement by such person or company so conducting any such lottery, gift enterprise, scheme, or device that remittances for the same may be

Payment of money orders to persons or concerns conducting fraudulent schemes, lotteries, etc.

1890, Sept. 19, ch. 908, § 3, 1 Supp., 804.

—may be forbidden, when.

—orders payable to agents may be included.

Amount of orders to be returned to remitters.

made by means of postal money-orders to any other person, firm, bank, corporation, or association named therein shall be held to be prima facie evidence of the existence of said agency by all the parties named therein; but the Postmaster-General shall not be precluded from ascertaining the existence of such agency in any other legal way.

What constitutes evidence of agency.

Approved September 19, 1890.

* * * Clerks and employees attached to first and second class post-offices * * * (shall) be allowed leaves of absence with full pay for not exceeding fifteen days in any one fiscal year: *Provided*, That no clerk or employee be granted a leave * * * until he has performed service for one year.

Leaves of absence for clerks. 1890, Oct. 1, ch. 1260, 1 Supp., 878. —not till in service a year.

Approved October 1, 1890.

* * * The employees of the mail-bag repair shops connected with the Post-Office Department of the United States, whether employed by the month, day, or otherwise, (shall) be allowed leaves of absence with full pay for not exceeding fifteen days in any one fiscal year: *Provided*, That no * * * employee be granted a leave * * * until he has performed service for one year.

Leaves of absence for employees of repair shop. 1890, Oct. 1, ch. 1260, 1 Supp., 878. —not till in service a year.

Approved October 1, 1890.

The Postmaster-General is hereby authorized and empowered to enter into contracts for a term not less than five nor more than ten years in duration, with American citizens, for the carrying of mails on American steamships, between ports of the United States and such ports in foreign countries, the Dominion of Canada excepted, as in his judgment will best subserve and promote the postal and commercial interests of the United States, the mail service on such lines to be equitably distributed among the Atlantic, Mexican Gulf, and Pacific ports. Said contracts shall be made with the lowest responsible bidder for the performance of said service on each route, and the Postmaster-General shall have the right to reject all bids not in his opinion reasonable for the attainment of the purposes named.

Ocean mail service. 1891, Mar. 3, ch. 519, 1 Supp., 905. See 1885, Mar. 3, ch. 342, § 1, 23 Stat. L., 387. —authority for establishment of.

2. Before making any contract for carrying ocean mails in accordance with this act the Postmaster-General shall give public notice by advertising once a week, for three months, in such daily papers as he shall select in each of the cities of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, St. Louis, Charleston, Norfolk, Savannah, Galveston, and Mobile, and when the proposed service is to be on the Pacific Ocean, then in San Francisco, Tacoma, and Portland. Such notice shall describe the route, the time when such contract will be made, the duration of the same, the size of the steamers to be used, the number of trips a year, the times of sailing, and the time when the service shall commence, which shall not be more than three years after the contract shall be let. The details of the mode of advertising and letting such contracts shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in chapter eight of title forty-six of the Revised Statutes for the letting of inland mail contracts so far as the same shall be applicable to the ocean mail service.

Advertisement for proposals.

Vessels and
requirements
thereof.

3. The vessels employed in the mail service under the provisions of this act shall be American-built steamships, owned and officered by American citizens, in conformity with the existing laws, or so owned and officered and registered according to law, and upon each departure from the United States the following proportion of the crew shall be citizens of the United States, to wit: During the first two years of such contract for carrying the mails, one-fourth thereof; during the next three succeeding years, one-third thereof; and during the remaining time of the continuance of such contract at least one-half thereof; and shall be constructed after the latest and most approved types, with all the modern improvements and appliances for ocean steamers. They shall be divided into four classes. The first class shall be iron or steel screw steamships, capable of maintaining a speed of twenty knots an hour at sea in ordinary weather, and of a gross registered tonnage or not less than eight thousand tons. No vessel except of said first class shall be accepted for said mail service under the provisions of this act between the United States and Great Britain. The second class shall be iron or steel steamships, capable of maintaining a speed of sixteen knots an hour at sea in ordinary weather, and of a gross registered tonnage of not less than five thousand tons. The third class shall be iron or steel steamships, capable of maintaining a speed of fourteen knots an hour at sea in ordinary weather, and of a gross registered tonnage of not less than two thousand five hundred tons. The fourth class shall be iron or steel or wooden steamships, capable of maintaining a speed of twelve knots an hour at sea in ordinary weather, and of a gross registered tonnage of not less than fifteen hundred tons. It shall be stipulated in the contract or contracts to be entered into for the said mail service that the said vessel may carry passengers with their baggage in addition to said mails and may do all ordinary business done by steamships.

Construction
of vessels for
conversion
into auxiliary
naval cruisers.

4. All steamships of the first, second, and third classes employed as above and hereafter built shall be constructed with particular reference to prompt and economical conversion into auxiliary naval cruisers, and according to plans and specifications to be agreed upon by and between the owners and the Secretary of the Navy, and they shall be of sufficient strength and stability to carry and sustain the working and operation of at least four effective rifled cannon of a caliber of not less than six inches, and shall be of the highest rating known to maritime commerce. And all vessels of said three classes heretofore built and so employed shall, before they are accepted for the mail service herein provided for, be thoroughly inspected by a competent naval officer or constructor detailed for that service by the Secretary of the Navy; and such officer shall report, in writing, to the Secretary of the Navy, who shall transmit said report to the Postmaster-General; and no such vessel not approved by the Secretary of the Navy as suitable for the service required shall be employed by the Postmaster-General as provided for in this act.

Compensa-
tion.

5. The rate of compensation to be paid for such ocean mail service of the said first-class ships shall not exceed the sum of four dollars a mile, and for the second-class ships two dollars a mile, by the shortest practicable route, for each outward voyage; for

the third-class ships shall not exceed one dollar a mile, and for the fourth-class ships two-thirds of a dollar a mile for the actual number of miles required by the Post-Office Department to be traveled on each outward bound voyage: *Provided*, That in the case of failure from any cause to perform the regular voyages stipulated for in said contracts or any of them, a pro rata deduction shall be made from the compensation on account of such omitted voyage or voyages; and that suitable fines and penalties may be imposed for delays or irregularities in the due performance of service according to the contract, to be determined by the Postmaster-General: *Provided further*, That no steamship so employed and so paid for carrying the United States mails shall receive any other bounty or subsidy from the Treasury of the United States.

Deduction
for failure;
fines for irreg-
ularities.

No other sub-
sidy.

6. Upon each of said vessels the United States shall be entitled to have transported, free of charge, a mail messenger, whose duty it shall be to receive, sort, take in charge and deliver the mails to and from the United States, and who shall be provided with suitable room for the accommodation of himself and the mails.

Transporta-
tion and ac-
commodation
of postal clerk.

7. Officers of the United States Navy may volunteer for service on said mail vessels, and when accepted by the contractor or contractors may be assigned to such duty by the Secretary of the Navy whenever in his opinion such assignment can be made without detriment to the service, and while in said employment they shall receive furlough pay from the Government, and such other compensation from the contractor or contractors as may be agreed upon by the parties: *Provided*, That they shall only be required to perform such duties as appertain to the merchant service.

Volunteers
on mail ves-
sels.

8. Said vessels shall take, as cadets or apprentices, one American-born boy under twenty-one years of age for each one thousand tons gross register, and one for each majority fraction thereof, who shall be educated in the duties of seamanship, rank as petty officers, and receive such pay for their services as may be reasonable.

Cadets.

9. Such steamers may be taken and used by the United States as transports or cruisers, upon payment to the owners of the fair actual value of the same at the time of the taking, and if there shall be a disagreement as to the fair actual value of the same at the time of the taking, and if there shall be a disagreement as to the fair actual [value] between the United States and the owners, then the same shall be determined by two impartial appraisers, one to be appointed by each of said parties, they at the same time selecting a third, who shall act in said appraisalment in case the two shall fail to agree.

Uses of ves-
sels as trans-
ports and
cruisers.

Approved March 3, 1891.

The Deputy Auditors for the Post-Office Department are charged with the examination, and signing in the name of the Auditor, of Post-Office Department warrants, collection and transfer drafts, and certificates of settlement of accounts to the Postmaster-General, and the control of the appropriations for furniture and miscellaneous items. During the absence of the Auditor one of the Deputy Auditors acts in his stead.

Approved March 3, 1891.

Deputy Au-
ditors.
—duties of.
—to sign cer-
tain papers.
See 1891,
Mar. 3, ch. 541,
1 Supp. 926.
Appropriations for sup-
plies.
Acting Au-
ditor.

Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General.
1891, Mar. 3, ch. 541, 1 Supp., 927.
Note.

The appointment of a Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General was first authorized by the following appropriation in the act of March 3, 1891:

For Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General, four thousand dollars.

NOTE.—The appropriation for the salary of a Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General has been repeated in every subsequent appropriation act.

Approved March 3, 1891.

Traveling expenses of postal clerks and others.
See 1891, Mar. 3, ch. 546, 26 Stat. L., 1018.
See 1900, June 2, ch. 613, 31 Stat. L., 259.

The division superintendents, assistant division superintendents, and chief clerks, Railway Mail Service, and railway postal clerks, each shall be paid their actual and necessary expenses while actually traveling on the business of the Post-Office Department and away from their several designated headquarters.

Approved March 3, 1891.

Designation of officer to sign warrants.
1891, Mar. 3, ch. 547, 1 Supp., 932.

The Postmaster-General may from time to time designate any officer of the Post-Office Department, above the grade of fourth-class clerk, to sign warrants in his stead, and such warrants when so signed, shall be of the same validity as if they had been signed by the Postmaster-General.

Approved March 3, 1891.

Official matter may be transported by express.
1892, July 13, ch. 165, § 5, 2 Supp., 34.
—franked Congressional matter excepted.

The Postmaster-General is authorized to provide for the transportation of official matter of any Department of the Government, over any railroad or express company, whenever he can do so at a saving to the Government and without detriment to the public service: *Provided*, That nothing in this section shall apply to official matter franked by members of Congress.

Approved July 13, 1892.

Miscellaneous mail lettings.
1892, July 26, ch. 249, 2 Supp., 47.
—before general advertisement.
—advertisement for.

After providing by general advertisement for the transportation of the mails in any State or Territory as authorized by law, the Postmaster-General may secure any mail service that may become necessary before the next general advertisement for said State or Territory by posting notices, for a period of not less than ten days in the post-offices at the termini of any route to be let, and upon a bulletin board in the Post-Office Department, inviting proposals, in such form and with such guaranty as may be prescribed by the Postmaster-General, for the performance of the proposed service. The contract for such service shall be made to run to the end of the contract term under the general advertisement, shall be made with the lowest bidder whose proposal is in due form, and who, under the law, is eligible as a bidder for such postal service.

Approved July 26, 1892.

Temporary service.
1892, July 26, ch. 249, § 1, 2 Supp., 48.
—where bidder or contractor under bulletin advertisement fails.

* * * Temporary service rendered necessary by reason of the failure of any bidder or contractor to perform the service awarded him under this act (meaning the act of July 26, 1892) may be employed by the Postmaster-General without advertisement, at a rate which he may deem reasonable, at the expense of any such failing bidder or contractor.

Approved July 26, 1892.

* * * The Postmaster-General is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to declare by official order that the chutes connected with mail boxes that are attached to any chute or device which may be approved by him are a part of said receiving boxes and under the exclusive care and custody of the Post-Office Department.

Chutes attached to letter boxes.
1893, Jan. 23, ch. 41, 2 Supp., 76.
—may be declared part of box.

Approved January 23, 1893.

For free-delivery service, including existing experimental free-delivery offices, eleven million two hundred and fifty-four thousand dollars, of which the sum of ten thousand dollars shall be applied under the direction of the Postmaster-General to experimental free-delivery in rural communities other than towns and villages.

Approved March 3, 1893.

* * * The bonds of all postmasters, by the direction of the Postmaster-General, may be approved and accepted and the approval and acceptance signed by the Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General in the name of the Postmaster-General.

Approved December 21, 1893.

Rural free delivery.
Act of Mar. 3, 1893, ch. 213; 27 Stat. L., 732. (Making appropriations for the Postal Service.)

The postal revenues and all debts due the Post-Office Department shall, when collected, be paid into the Treasury of the United States under the direction of the Postmaster-General, and the Treasurer, assistant treasurer, or designated depository receiving such payment shall give the depositor a duplicate receipt therefor, to be retained by him in his office as a voucher, and shall forward the original to the Auditor for the Post-Office Department, to be placed to the credit of the depositor in audit of his accounts.

Fourth Asst. P. M. G.
—to approve postmasters' bonds.
1893, Dec. 21, ch. 6; 2 Supp., 165.

Approved January 22, 1894.

A money order shall not be issued for more than one hundred dollars, and fees for domestic money orders shall be as follows, to wit:

For orders not exceeding two dollars and fifty cents, three cents.

For orders exceeding two dollars and fifty cents and not exceeding five dollars, five cents.

For orders exceeding five dollars and not exceeding ten dollars, eight cents.

For orders exceeding ten dollars and not exceeding twenty dollars, ten cents.

For orders exceeding twenty dollars and not exceeding thirty dollars, twelve cents.

For orders exceeding thirty dollars and not exceeding forty dollars, fifteen cents.

For orders exceeding forty dollars and not exceeding fifty dollars, eighteen cents.

For orders exceeding fifty dollars and not exceeding sixty dollars, twenty cents.

For orders exceeding sixty dollars and not exceeding seventy-five dollars, twenty-five cents.

For orders exceeding seventy-five dollars and not exceeding one hundred dollars, thirty cents.

Approved January 27, 1894.

Payment of postal revenues into the Treasury.
1894, Jan. 22, ch. 17, 2 Supp., 166.
See 1896, May 28, ch. 252, § 5, 2 Supp., 478.
Duplicate receipts for deposits.

Money orders.
—fees and limitations.
1894, Jan. 27, ch. 21, § 2, Supp., 166.
Single order limited to \$100.
Fees for money orders.

Allowance for clerks. Postmasters at money-order post-offices of the first and second classes may be allowed by the Postmaster-General to employ such number of clerks in the transaction of their money-order business and at such rates of compensation, respectively, as he may deem expedient. The allowances for clerk hire made to postmasters of the first and second class post-offices by the Postmaster-General out of the annual appropriation for clerks in post-offices shall cover the cost of clerical services of all kinds in such post-offices, including the cost of clerical labor in the money-order business.

—at 1st and 2d class offices. And at all other money-order post-offices the compensation for the clerical labor in the money-order business shall be paid out of the fees received for the issue of money orders, and shall be three cents for each domestic or international money order issued:

—at other money-order offices. *Provided*, That the Postmaster-General may allow to the postmaster at each international exchange office such additional amount in each case, out of the annual appropriation for clerks in post-offices, as he may deem expedient, to enable these postmasters to obtain the clerical labor necessary for the performance of such special duties as are imposed upon them by the operations of the money-order system and are not required of other postmasters.

—at international exchange offices.

Approved January 27, 1894.

Salaries of postmasters to be full compensation for all risks, liabilities, etc. The salaries of postmasters, as fixed by law, shall be deemed and taken to be full compensation for the responsibility and risk incurred and for the personal services rendered by them as custodians of the money-order and other funds of the Post-Office Department.

Approved January 27, 1894.

Allowances to include all clerical services. The allowances for clerk hire made to postmasters of the first and second class post-offices by the First Assistant Postmaster-General, out of the annual appropriation for clerks in post-offices, shall cover the cost of clerical services of all kinds in such post-offices, including the cost of clerical labor in the money-order business.

Approved January 27, 1894.

Monthly statements of unpaid orders one year old. * * * It shall be the duty of postmasters at all money-order offices to render to the Auditor for the Post-Office Department a monthly statement * * * of all domestic money orders payable at their respective offices, as evidenced by advice, remaining unpaid for one year from the last day of the month of issue, such statement to be accompanied by the advice, * * * and the amount of money represented by the Auditor's statement and by the monthly statements of the postmasters, as certified to the Postmaster-General by the Auditor, shall be turned into the Treasury by the Postmaster-General for account of the Post-Office Department to be used as current revenues.

Approved January 27, 1894.

Invalid money orders. Domestic money orders shall not be paid at the offices upon which they are drawn, or at the offices of issue after one year from the last day of the month of issue of such money orders; but such money orders shall be sent to the Post-Office Department and by warrant.

shall be paid by a warrant of the Postmaster-General countersigned by the Auditor for the Post-Office Department out of any money in the Treasury to the credit of the Post-Office Department, to the extent of the moneys paid in on this account, the payments so made to be charged to an appropriation account hereby created to be denominated "Unpaid money orders more than one year old." —appropriation out of which payable.

Approved January 27, 1894.

It shall be the duty of the postmasters to attach to their accounts rendered to the Auditor for the Post-Office Department the letters of advice, or if lost evidence of that fact, recalled from the post-office to which originally sent for all repayments of domestic money orders provided for in this section and in section four thousand and thirty-eight of the Revised Statutes of the United States. Advices of repaid orders to be attached to accounts. 1894, Jan. 27, ch. 21, § 6, 2 Supp., 168.

Approved January 27, 1894.

The Postmaster-General shall supply such money-order offices, as he may deem expedient, with blank forms of application for money orders, in such form as he may direct. Form of applications. 1894, Jan. 27, ch. 21, § 7, 2 Supp., 168.

Approved January 27, 1894.

It shall be the duty of postmasters at post-offices authorized to issue money orders to render to the Auditor for the Post-Office Department monthly, semimonthly, weekly, semiweekly, or daily accounts of all money orders issued and paid, of all fees received for issuing them, of all transfers and payments made from money-order funds, and of all money received to be used for the payment of money orders or on account of money-order business. Money-order accounts. 1894, Jan. 27, ch. 21, § 8, 2 Supp., 168.

Approved January 27, 1894.

The Postmaster-General shall furnish money-order offices with printed or engraved forms for domestic money orders, * * * and no money order shall be valid unless drawn upon such form. Money-order forms. 1894, Jan. 27, ch. 21, § 9, 2 Supp., 168.

Approved January 27, 1894.

Whenever a money order has been lost within one year from the last day of the month of issue the Postmaster-General, upon the application of the remitter or payee of such order, may cause a duplicate thereof to be issued, without charge, providing the person losing the original shall furnish a certificate from the postmaster by whom it was payable that it has not been, and will not thereafter be, paid; and a similar certificate from the postmaster by whom it was issued that it has not been, and will not thereafter be, repaid. No order valid unless on regular form. Lost valid money orders. 1894, Jan. 27, ch. 21, § 11, 2 Supp., 169. —payment of by duplicate. Certificate of issuing and paying postmasters.

Approved January 27, 1894.

* * * Whenever a money order, which has not been paid within one year from the last day of the month of issue, has been lost, the Postmaster-General, upon the application of the remitter or payee of such order, shall issue a warrant for the payment Lost invalid money orders. 1894, Jan. 27, ch. 21, § 11, 2 Supp., 169.

—warrant for payment of, issued on application. —proof of nonpayment of thereof, as provided for in section four of this act, without charge, on the certificate of the Auditor for the Post-Office Department, or upon such other proof satisfactory to the Postmaster-General, that the order has not been paid.

Approved January 27, 1894.

Proposals for certain supplies to be called for at same time by all Departments.

1894, Jan. 27, ch. 22, 2 Supp., 169; 1894, Apr. 21, ch. 61, 2 Supp., 180.

The advertisement for * * * proposals (for fuel, ice, stationery, and other miscellaneous supplies, to be purchased at Washington for the use of the Executive Departments and other Government establishments) shall be made by all the Executive Departments, including the Department of Labor, the United States Fish Commission, the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Smithsonian Institution, the Government Printing Office, the government of the District of Columbia, and the superintendent of the State, War, and Navy building, except for paper and materials for use of the Government Printing Office, and materials used in the work of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, which shall continue to be advertised for and purchased as now provided by law, on the same days and shall each designate two o'clock post meridian of such days for the opening of all such proposals in each Department and other Government establishment in the city of Washington; and the Secretary of the Treasury shall designate the day or days in each year for the opening of such proposals and give due notice thereof to the other Departments and Government establishments. Such proposals shall be opened in the usual way and schedules thereof duly prepared and, together with the statement of the proposed action of each Department and Government establishment thereon, shall be submitted to a board, consisting of one of the Assistant Secretaries of the Treasury and Interior Departments and one of the Assistant Postmasters-General, who shall be designated by the heads of said Departments and the Postmaster-General, respectively, at a meeting to be called by the official of the Treasury Department, who shall be chairman thereof, and said board shall carefully examine and compare all the proposals so submitted and recommend the acceptance or rejection of any or all of said proposals. And if any or all of such proposals shall be rejected, advertisements for proposals shall again be invited and proceeded with in the same manner.

Approved January 27, 1894.

Delivery of supplies by contractors.

1894, July 16, ch. 137, § 2, 2 Supp., 196.

* * * In making contracts for postal cards, stamped envelopes, stamped paper, and all other supplies, the Postmaster-General is authorized to require the contractor, under such regulations as he may prescribe, to make delivery at such points in the United States as he may direct, whenever, in his opinion, any such contract can be made at a saving to the Government.

Approved July 16, 1894.

Publications issued by benevolent or fraternal societies, institutions of learning, etc.

1894, July 16, ch. 137, 2 Supp., 196.

All periodical publications issued from a known place of publication at stated intervals and as frequently as four times a year, by or under the auspices of a benevolent or fraternal society or order organized under the lodge system and having a bona fide membership of not less than one thousand persons or by a regularly incorporated institution of learning, or by or under the

auspices of a trades union, and all publications of strictly professional, literary, historical, or scientific societies, including the bulletins issued by State boards of health, shall be admitted to the mails as second-class matter and the postage thereon shall be the same as on other second-class matter and no more: *Provided further*, That such matter shall be originated and published to further the objects and purposes of such society, order, trades union, or institution of learning and shall be formed of printed paper sheets without board, cloth, leather or other substantial binding such as distinguish printed books for preservation from periodical publications.

Approved July 16, 1894.

The Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster-General shall cause to be destroyed in such manner as they may deem best all money-order statements rendered by postmasters and all paid Money Orders and paid Postal Notes accompanying the same, now filed in the office of the Auditor for the Post-Office Department, or which may hereafter be filed therein, after ten years shall have elapsed from the expiration of the period covered by such statements.

Bulletins of State boards of health.
—admission of as second-class matter.

Destruction of money-order statements and paid orders.
1894, July 16, ch. 137, § 4, 2 Supp., 196.

(1897, Mar. 3, ch. 385, 2 Supp., 599.)

(Note.—Act of Mar. 3, 1897, ch. 385, changes “ten” years to “seven” years.)

Approved July 16, 1894.

The Postmaster-General, upon evidence satisfactory to him, and under such special regulations as he shall prescribe, may cause payment to be made in the manner prescribed in sections four and eleven of the act approved January 27, 1894, of the amount of any money order remaining unpaid after the lapse of seven years from the date of issue.

Money orders.
—more than seven years old.
1894, July 16, ch. 137, § 4, 2 Supp., 196.
See 1897, Mar. 3, ch. 385, 2 Supp., 599.

Approved July 16, 1894.

No person who holds an office the salary or annual compensation attached to which amounts to the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars shall be appointed to or hold any other office to which compensation is attached unless specially heretofore or hereafter authorized thereto by law.

Holding two offices forbidden.
1894, July 31, ch. 174, § 2, 2 Supp., 212.
—exceptions.

Approved July 31, 1894.

The Auditors of the Treasury shall hereafter be designated as follows: * * * the Sixth Auditor as Auditor for the Post-Office Department.

Auditor for P. O. Dept.
—title of.
1894, July 31, ch. 174, § 3, 2 Supp., 212.

Approved July 31, 1894.

* * * The Auditor for the Post-Office Department shall receive and examine all accounts of salaries and incidental expenses of the office of the Postmaster-General and of all bureaus and offices under his direction, all postal and money-order accounts of postmasters, all accounts relating to the transportation of the mails, and to all other business within the jurisdiction of the Post-Office Department, and certify the balances arising thereon to the Postmaster-General for accounts of the postal revenues and expenditures therefrom, and to the Division of Bookkeeping and

Auditing of Post Office Department and postal accounts.
1894, July 31, ch. 174, § 7, 2 Supp., 214.
See R. S., § 277.
Certification of balances.

Warrants for other accounts, and send forthwith copies of the certificates in the latter cases to the Postmaster-General. * * *

Approved July 31, 1894.

Balances certified by Auditor.

1894, July 31, ch. 174, § 8, 2 Supp., 215.

—subject to revision by Comptroller.

Secretary of Treasury may direct reexamination of accounts.

The balances which may from time to time be certified by the Auditors to the Division of Bookkeeping and Warrants, or to the Postmaster-General, upon the settlements of public accounts, shall be final and conclusive upon the executive branch of the Government, except that any person whose accounts may have been settled, the head of the executive department, * * * or the Comptroller of the Treasury, may, within a year, obtain a revision of the said account by the Comptroller of the Treasury, whose decision upon such revision shall be final and conclusive upon the executive branch of the Government: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Treasury may, when in his judgment the interests of the Government require it, suspend payment and direct the re-examination of any account.

Approved July 31, 1894.

Where payment is accepted, revision can not be had.

1894, July 31, ch. 174, § 8, 2 Supp., 215.

Separate items may be suspended.

Secretary of Treasury to fix time before warrant issues.

Any person accepting payment under a settlement by an Auditor shall be thereby precluded from obtaining a revision of such settlement as to any items upon which payment is accepted; but nothing in this act shall prevent an Auditor from suspending items in an account in order to obtain further evidence or explanations necessary to their settlement. When suspended items are finally settled a revision may be had as in the case of the original settlement. Action upon any account or business shall not be delayed awaiting applications for revision: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Treasury shall make regulations fixing the time which shall expire before a warrant is issued in payment of an account certified as provided in sections seven and eight of this Act.

Approved July 31, 1894.

Execution of pension vouchers before fourth-class postmasters.

1894, Aug. 23, ch. 319, § 2 Supp., 264.

Fourth-class postmasters of the United States are hereby required, empowered and authorized to administer any and all oaths required to be made by pensioners and their witnesses in the execution of their vouchers with like effect and force as officers having a seal, and such postmaster shall affix the stamp of his office to his signature to such vouchers, and he is authorized to charge and receive for each voucher not exceeding twenty-five cents, to be paid by the pensioner.

Approved August 23, 1894.

Congressional documents.

1895, Jan. 12, ch. 23, § 85, 2 Supp., 362.

—may be sent and received by mail free, by whom, and when.

The Vice-President, Senators, Representatives, and Delegates in Congress, the Secretary of the Senate, and Clerk of the House of Representatives may send and receive through the mail (free) all public documents printed by order of Congress; and the name of the Vice-President, Senator, Representative, Delegate, Secretary of the Senate, and Clerk of the House shall be written thereon, with the proper designation of the office he holds; and the provisions of this section shall apply to each of the persons named therein until the first day of December following the expiration of their respective terms of office.

Approved January 12, 1895.

No printing shall be done for the Executive Departments in any fiscal year in excess of the amount of the appropriation, and none shall be done without a special requisition, signed by the chief of the Department and filed with the Public Printer.

The following reports required by law to be made to Congress shall not be printed unless the printing be recommended by the head of the Department making the same, and ordered by concurrent resolution of Congress, namely: Report of contracts for conveying the mails, Report of fines and deductions in the Post-Office Department. * * *

Approved January 12, 1895.

No head of any Executive Department, or of any bureau, branch, or office of the Government, shall cause to be printed, nor shall the Public Printer print, any document or matter except that which is authorized by law and necessary to the public business; and executive officers, before transmitting their annual reports, shall carefully examine the same and all accompanying documents, and exclude therefrom all matter, including engravings, maps, drawings, and illustrations, except such as they shall certify in their letters transmitting such reports are necessary and relate entirely to the transaction of the public business.

Approved January 12, 1895.

The Postmaster-General shall contract for all envelopes, stamped or otherwise, designed for sale to the public, or for use by his own or other Departments, and may contract for them to be plain or with such printed matter as may be prescribed by the Department making requisition therefor: *Provided*, That no envelope furnished by the Government shall contain any business address or advertisement.

Approved January 12, 1895.

All clerks (employed in the Railway Mail Service and performing duty in railway post-offices) * * * shall reside at some point on the route to which they are assigned: but railway postal clerks * * * appointed prior to February twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, and now performing such duty shall not be required to change their residence.

Approved February 28, 1895.

The Postmaster-General may, in his discretion, cause the contract for printing post-route maps to be let for a term of four years.

Approved March 2, 1895.

Every officer required by law to take and approve official bonds shall cause the same to be examined at least once every two years for the purpose of ascertaining the sufficiency of the sureties thereon; and every officer having power to fix the amount of an official bond shall examine it to ascertain the sufficiency of the amount thereof and approve or fix said amount at least once in two years and as much oftener as he may deem it necessary.

Printing.
—not to be in excess of appropriation.
1895, Jan. 12, ch. 23, § 89, 2 Supp., 362.

Reports of mail contracts not to be printed.

Id., § 73, 2 Supp., 356. See R. S., § 3797.

Public printing.
—only as authorized by law.

1895, Jan. 12, ch. 23, § 94, 2 Supp., 364.
—of annual reports.

Contracts for envelopes for all Departments to be made by Postmaster-General.

Act 1895, Jan. 12, ch. 23, § 96, 2 Supp., 364.

Residence of postal clerks.

1895, Feb. 28, ch. 140, 2 Supp. R. S., 392.

—to be on route.

—exception.

Post-route maps—contract for printing.

1895, Mar. 2, ch. 177, 2 Supp., 417.

Official bonds.

1895, Mar. 2, ch. 177, § 5, 2 Supp., 418.

—to be examined every two years.

—to be re-
newed every
four years.

Every officer whose duty it is to take and approve official bonds shall cause all such bonds to be renewed every four years after their dates, but he may require such bonds to be renewed or strengthened oftener if he deem such action necessary. In the discretion of such officer the requirement of a new bond may be waived for the period of service of a bonded officer after the expiration of a four-year term of service pending the appointment and qualification of his successor: *Provided*, that the nonperformance of any requirement of this section on the part of any official of the Government shall not be held to affect in any respect the liability of principal or sureties on any bond made or to be made to the United States; *Provided further*, that the liability of the principal and sureties on all official bonds shall continue and cover the period of service ensuing until the appointment and qualification of the successor of the principal: *And provided further*, that nothing in this section shall be construed to repeal or modify section thirty-eight hundred and thirty-six of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

—liability on,
to cover period
of service.

Postmasters'
bonds not af-
fected.

Approved March 2, 1895.

Importation
and circula-
tion by inter-
state com-
merce, etc., of
lottery matter.
1895, Mar. 2,
ch. 191, § 1, 2
Supp., 435.

Any person who shall cause to be brought within the United States from abroad, for the purpose of disposing of the same, or deposited in or carried by the mails of the United States, or carried from one State to another in the United States, any paper, certificate, or instrument purporting to be or represent a ticket, chance, share, or interest in or dependent upon the event of a lottery, so-called gift concert, or similar enterprise, offering prizes dependent upon lot or chance, or shall cause any advertisement of such lottery, so-called gift concert, or similar enterprise, offering prizes dependent upon lot or chance, to be brought into the United States, or deposited in or carried by the mails of the United States, or transferred from one State to another in the same, shall be punishable in the first offense by imprisonment for not more than two years or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or both, and in the second and after offenses by such imprisonment only.

—penalty.

Approved March 2, 1895.

Mail for lot-
teries, fraudu-
lent schemes,
etc.
1895, Mar. 2,
ch. 191, § 4, 2
Supp., 436.

The powers conferred upon the Postmaster-General by the statute of eighteen hundred and ninety, chapter nine hundred and eight, section two, are hereby extended and made applicable to all letters or other matter sent by mail.

Approved March 2, 1895.

Display of
weather sig-
nals on cars
and vehicles
transporting
the mail.
1896, Apr. 2,
ch. 140, 2
Supp., 459.

The Secretary of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Postmaster-General, may arrange a plan by which there shall be displayed on all cars and other conveyances used for transporting United States mail suitable flags or other signals to indicate weather forecasts, cold-wave warnings, frost warnings, and so forth, to be furnished by the Chief of the Weather Bureau.

Approved April 25, 1896.

—P o s t a l
Guide.
1896, May
28, ch. 252, 2
Supp., 477.

The Postmaster-General may, in his discretion, cause the contract for furnishing the official Postal Guide to be let for a term of four years.

Approved May 28, 1896.

Each head of a Department may, from time to time, alter the distribution among the various bureaus and offices of his Department, of the clerks and other employees allowed by law, except such clerks or employees as may be required by law to be exclusively engaged upon some specific work, as he may find it necessary and proper to do, but all details hereunder shall be made by written order of the head of the Department, and in no case be for a period of time exceeding one hundred and twenty days: *Provided*, That details so made may, on expiration, be renewed from time to time by written order of the head of the Department, in each particular case, for periods of not exceeding one hundred and twenty days. All details heretofore made are hereby revoked, but may be renewed as provided herein.

Assignment
of clerks.
1896, May
28, ch. 252, §
3, 2 Supp., 477.
Details.

—renewal of.

Approved May 28, 1896.

Mailable matter of the fourth class shall embrace all matter not embraced in the first, second, or third class which is not in its form or nature liable to destroy, deface, or otherwise damage the contents of the mail bag or harm the person of any one engaged in the postal service, and is not above the weight provided by law. * * *

Fourth-class
matter.
1896, June
8, ch. 370, 2
Supp., 507.
See R. S., §
3911.
—defined.

Approved June 8, 1896.

* * * (The limit of weight of mail matter) is hereby declared to be not exceeding four pounds for each package thereof, except in case of single books weighing in excess of that amount, and except for books and documents published or circulated by order of Congress, or printed or written official matter emanating from any of the Departments of the Government or from the Smithsonian Institution, or which is not declared nonmailable under the provisions of section thirty-eight hundred and ninety-three of the Revised Statutes as amended by the act of July twelfth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, or matter appertaining to lotteries, gift concerts, or fraudulent schemes or devices.

Limit of
weight of mail
matter.
1896, June
8, ch. 370, 2
Supp., 507.
—exceptions.

Approved June 8, 1896.

No post-office established at any county seat shall be abolished or discontinued by reason of any consolidation of post-offices made by the Postmaster-General under existing law * * * ; *Provided, however*, That this provision shall not apply to the city of Cambridge, Massachusetts, or to Towson, Maryland.

Post - offices
discontinued.
—at county
seats forbidden
for purposes of
consolidation.
1896, June
9, ch. 386; 2
Supp., 509.

Approved June 9, 1896.

All railway companies carrying mail may furnish free transportation on the line of their respective roads to railway mail clerks.

Free trans-
portation for
railway postal
clerks.
1896, June
9, ch. 386, 2
Supp., 510.

Approved June 9, 1896.

No station, substation, or branch post-office shall be established beyond the corporate limits or boundaries of any city or town in which the principal office to which such station, substation, or branch office is attached is located, except in cases of villages, towns, or cities of fifteen hundred or more inhabitants not distant

Post - office
stations.
—limitations
upon establish-
ment of.
1896, June
9, ch. 386, 2
Supp., 510.

more than five miles, as near as may be, from the outer boundary or limits of such city or town in which the principal office is located. * * *

Approved June 9, 1896.

Estimates.
—for Money-
Order Service,
to be in detail.
1896, June
9, ch. 386, 2
Supp., 510.

The Postmaster-General shall * * * submit in the annual estimates to Congress estimates in detail for all expenses of the money-order branch of the postal service.

Approved June 9, 1896.

Claims for
losses.

Act June 11,
1896, ch. 424,
29 Stat. L.,
458.

—in excess of
\$10,000 to be
reported to
Congress.

That the first proviso in section one of said act (act of May 9, 1888) be so amended as to read as follows:

Provided, That no claim exceeding the sum of ten thousand dollars shall be paid or credited until after the facts shall have been ascertained by the Postmaster-General and reported to Congress, together with his recommendation thereon, and an appropriation made therefor.

Approved June 11, 1896.

Sending ob-
scene matter
by common
carrier from
one State to
another.

1897, Feb.
8, ch. 172, 2
Supp., 547.

It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit with any express company or other common carrier for carriage from one State or Territory of the United States or the District of Columbia to any other State or Territory of the United States or the District of Columbia any obscene, lewd, or lascivious book, pamphlet, picture, paper, letter, writing, print, or other matter of indecent character, or any article or thing designed or intended for the prevention of conception or procuring of abortion, or any written or printed card, letter, circular, book, pamphlet, advertisement, or notice of any kind giving information, directly or indirectly, where, how, or of whom, or by what means any of the hereinbefore mentioned articles, matters, or things may be obtained or made; and any person who shall knowingly deposit, or cause to be deposited, with any express company or other common carrier for carriage from one State or Territory of the United States or the District of Columbia to any other State or Territory of the United States or the District of Columbia, or who shall take from such express company or other common carrier with intent to sell, distribute, or circulate any matter or thing herein forbidden to be deposited for carriage shall for each offense, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than five thousand dollars or imprisonment at hard labor not more than five years, or both, at the discretion of the court.

—penalty.

Approved February 8, 1897.

Indemnity
for loss of
first-class reg-
istered matter.
1897, Feb.
27, ch. 340, 2
Supp., 564.
—Postmaster-
General to pro-
vide rule for
payment of.
—limit of in-
demnity.

* * * As a part of such system (of registration) he (the Postmaster-General) may provide rules under which the sender or owners of first-class registered matter shall be indemnified for losses thereof in the mails, the indemnity to be paid out of the postal revenues, but in no case to exceed ten dollars for any one registered piece, or the actual value thereof when that is less than ten dollars, and for which no other compensation or reimbursement to the loser has been made: *Provided*, That the Post-Office Department or its revenues shall not be liable for the loss of any other mail matter on account of its having been registered.

Approved February 27, 1897.

[Par. 1.] (1) That there shall not be allowed for the use of any third-class post-office for rent a sum in excess of four hundred dollars, nor more than sixty dollars for fuel and lights, in any one year.

Allowances,
limitation on.
1897, Mar.
3, ch. 385, 2
Supp., 579.
—for rent.

For necessary miscellaneous and incidental items directly connected with the first and second class post-offices, including furniture, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars:

Provided, That the Postmaster-General, in his discretion, under such regulations as he shall prescribe, may authorize any of the postmasters of said offices to expend the fund he may allow them for such purposes without the written consent of the Postmaster-General. * * *

—expenditures
by postmasters.

[Par. 2.] (2) For inland transportation of mail by electric and cable cars on routes not exceeding twenty miles in length, two hundred and fifty thousand dollars:

Provided, That the rate of compensation to be paid per mile shall not exceed the amount now received by companies performing such service. * * *

—compensation for carrying mail limited.

[Par. 3.] (3) All railway companies carrying mail may furnish free transportation on the line of their respective roads to railway mail clerks. * * *

—free transportation for postal clerks.

[Par. 4.] (4) That hereafter the Postmaster-General shall be authorized to expend such sums as may be necessary, not exceeding fifty-five thousand dollars, to cover one-half of the cost of transportation, compensation, and expense of clerks to be employed in assorting and pouching mails in transit on steamships between the United States and other postal administrations in the International Postal Union; and not exceeding forty thousand dollars for transferring the foreign mail from incoming steamships in New York Bay to the several steamship and railway piers, and between the steamship piers in New York City and Jersey City and the post-office and railroad stations. * * *

—expenditures for ocean mail service.

[Par. 5.] Section four hundred and thirteen of the (5) Revised Statutes is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

“SEC. 413. The Postmaster-General shall make the following annual reports to Congress:

Reports to Congress.

“First. A report of the finances of the Department for the preceding year, showing the amount of balance due the Department at the beginning of the year, the amount of postage which accrued within the year, the amount of engagements and liabilities and the amount actually paid during the year for carrying the mail, showing how much of the amount was for carrying the mail in preceding years.

—of finances.

“Second. A report of the amount expended in the Department for the preceding fiscal year, including detailed statements of expenditures made from the contingent fund.

—of expenditures.

“And the Postmaster-General shall cause all of such reports to be printed at the Public Printing Office, either together or separately, and in such numbers as may be required by the exigencies of the service or by law.”

—to be printed.

Section four thousand and twenty of the (6) Revised Statutes is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

—assistant
superintend-
ents, railway
mail service.

"SEC. 4020. The Postmaster-General may appoint two agents to superintend the railway postal service, each of whom shall be paid out of the appropriation for the transportation of the mail a salary at the rate of two thousand five hundred dollars a year, with an allowance for traveling and incidental expenses while actively employed in the service, of not more than five dollars a day; and the Auditor for the Post-Office Department shall charge to the appropriation for mail transportation the salary and per diem of the assistant superintendents of the postal-railway service, and to the appropriation for the free-delivery system the salary and per diem of the special agent detailed for that service."

—traveling ex-
penses.

Section four thousand and forty-eight of the (7) Revised Statutes is hereby repealed.

—estimates of
expenses of
free - delivery
service.

The Postmaster-General shall, for the fiscal year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and annually thereafter, submit in the annual estimates to Congress estimates in detail as far as practicable for expenses of the free-delivery service.

Destruction
of money or-
der statements
and paid or-
ders after
seven years.

See 1894,
July 16, ch.
137, § 4.

Section four of the act approved July sixteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-four (8), making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, is hereby amended by inserting the word "seven" in place of the word "ten" wherever it occurs in the section. * * *

Approved March 3, 1897.

Officers aid-
ing in impor-
tation or cir-
culation of ob-
scene matter.

1897, July
24, ch. 11, §
17, 2 Supp.,
708.

See §§ 16
and 18 of this
act.

—penalty.

Whoever, being an officer, agent, or employee of the Government of the United States, shall knowingly aid or abet any person engaged in any violation of any of the provisions of law prohibiting importing, advertising, dealing in, exhibiting, or sending or receiving by mail obscene or indecent publications or representations, or means for preventing conception or procuring abortion, or other articles of indecent or immoral use or tendency, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall for every offense be punishable by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars or by imprisonment at hard labor for not more than ten years, or both.

Approved July 24, 1897.

Leaves of ab-
sence.

1898, Mar.
15, ch. 68, § 7,
2 Supp., 737.

—additional
on account of
sickness.

—absence in
excess of, with-
out pay.

The head of any Department may grant thirty days' annual leave with pay in any one year to each clerk or employee: * * * (and) where some member of the immediate family of a clerk or employee is afflicted with a contagious disease and requires the care and attendance of such employee, or where his or her presence in the Department would jeopardize the health of fellow-clerks, and in exceptional and meritorious cases, where a clerk or employee is personally ill, and where to limit the annual leave to thirty days in any one calendar year would work peculiar hardship, it may be extended, in the discretion of the head of the Department, with pay, not exceeding thirty days in any one case or in any one calendar year. This section shall not be construed to mean that so long as a clerk or employee is borne upon the rolls of the Department in excess of the time herein provided for or granted that he or she shall be entitled to pay during the period of such excessive absence, but that the pay shall stop upon the expiration of the granted leave.

Approved March 15, 1898.

It shall be the duty of the heads of the several Executive Departments, in the interest of the public service, to require of all clerks and other employees, of whatever grade or class, in their respective Departments, not less than seven hours of labor each day, except Sundays and days declared public holidays by law or Executive order: *Provided*, That the heads of the Departments may, by special order, stating the reason, further extend the hours of any clerk or employee in their Departments, respectively; but in case of an extension it shall be without additional compensation: * * *

2. It shall be the duty of the head of each Executive Department to require monthly reports to be made to him as to the condition of the public business in the several bureaus or offices of his Department at Washington; and in each case where such reports disclose that the public business is in arrears, the head of the Department in which such arrears exist shall require, as provided herein, an extension of the hours of service to such clerks or employees as may be necessary to bring up such arrears of public business.

Approved March 15, 1898.

It shall be the duty of the head of each Executive Department, or other Government establishment at the seat of government, not under an Executive Department, to make at the expiration of each quarter of the fiscal year a written report to the President as to the condition of the public business in his Executive Department or Government establishment, and whether any branch thereof is in arrears.

Approved March 15, 1898.

It shall not be lawful to detail clerks or other employees paid from general appropriations for the postal service, from any branch of said postal service, whether located at the seat of government or elsewhere, to any of the offices or bureaus of the Post-Office Department at Washington.

Approved March 15, 1898.

It shall be lawful to transmit by mail, at the postage rate of a cent apiece, payable by stamps to be affixed by the sender, and under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe, written messages on private mailing cards, such cards to be sent openly in the mails, to be no larger than the size fixed by the Convention of the Universal Postal Union, and to be approximately of the same form, quality, and weight as the stamped postal card now in general use in the United States.

Approved May 19, 1898.

* * * Postage on second-class matter mailed shall be collected and accounted for under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe.

Approved June 13, 1898.

Hours of service in Department.
1898, Mar. 15, ch. 68, § 7, 2 Supp., 736.

—extension of.

Reports of condition of business.
Id.

Report to President.—of condition of business to be made quarterly.
1898, Mar. 15, ch. 68, § 7, 2 Supp., 737.

Detail of clerks, etc., from postal to departmental service forbidden.
1898, Mar. 15, ch. 68, § 9, 2 Supp., 738.

Private mailing cards ("post cards") authorized.
1898, May 19, ch. 347, 2 Supp., 766.

Collection of postage on matter of second class.
1898, June 13, ch. 446, 2 Supp., 778.
See R. S., §§ 3884, 3906.

Record of proposals.

1898, June 13, ch. 446, § 2, 2 Supp., 778.

Proposals not accepted to be destroyed.

The Postmaster-General shall have recorded, in a book to be kept for that purpose, a true and faithful abstract of all proposals made to him for carrying the mail, giving the name of the party offering, the terms of the offer, the sum to be paid, and the time the contract is to continue; and he shall put on file and preserve the originals of all such proposals until the end of the contract term to which they relate, after which the proposals that were not accepted may be destroyed or disposed of as waste paper.

* * *

Approved June 13, 1898.

Official correspondence by Members of Congress.

1898, June 13, ch. 446, § 2, Supp., 778.

The Vice-President, Members and Members-elect of and Delegates and Delegates-elect to Congress shall have the privilege of sending free through the mails, and under their frank, any mail matter to any Government official or to any person, correspondence, not exceeding two ounces in weight, upon official or departmental business.

Approved June 13, 1898.

Padding the mails.

1898, June 13, ch. 446, § 2 Supp., 778.

Increasing weight with intent to cause increase in compensation.—penalty.

Any person or persons who shall place or cause to be placed any matter in the mails during the regular weighing period, for the purpose of increasing the weight of the mails with intent to cause an increase in the compensation of the railroad mail carrier over whose route such mail matter may pass, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, on conviction thereof, be fined not less than five hundred dollars nor more than twenty thousand dollars, and shall be imprisoned at hard labor not less than thirty days nor more than five years.

Approved June 13, 1898.

Destruction of certain registers of arrivals and departures of mails.

1898, June 13, ch. 446, § 2, 2 Supp., 779.

* * * The reports of the arrivals and departures of the mails on mail routes made and sent by postmasters to the Second Assistant Postmaster-General, on which no fines or deductions from the pay of contractors for carrying the mails have been based, and the certificates of oaths taken by carriers on mail routes, may be disposed of as waste paper after the expiration of one year from the end of the contract term to which they relate.

Approved June 13, 1898.

Bonds of clerks in post-offices.

1898, June 13, ch. 446, § 3, 2 Supp., 779.

—when required.—penalty of.—what to cover.

Assistant postmasters and cashiers at first, second, and third class post-offices, and when deemed necessary by the Postmaster-General for the better protection of the interests of the Government any other employees in such offices, shall, before entering upon the duties of their office give bond to the United States with good and approved security, and in such penalty as the Postmaster-General shall prescribe, conditioned for the faithful discharge of all duties and trusts imposed upon them either by law or the rules and regulations of the Post-Office Department.

Approved June 13, 1898.

Prepayment of postage on returned 2d, 3d, and 4th class matter.

Second, third, and fourth class mail matter shall not be returned to sender or remailed until the postage has been fully prepaid on the same: *Provided*, That in all cases where undelivered matter

of these classes is of obvious value, the sender, if known, shall be notified of the fact of nondelivery, and be given the opportunity of prepaying the return postage.

Approved June 13, 1898.

1898, June 13, ch. 446, § 4, 2 Supp., 779.
—sender to be notified, when.

Nothing contained in (act of Mar. 15, 1898, ch. 68, §7) shall be construed to prevent the head of any Executive Department from granting thirty days' annual leave with pay in any one year to a clerk or employee, notwithstanding such clerk or employee may have had during such year not exceeding thirty days' leave with pay on account of sickness as provided in said section. * * *

Approved July 7, 1898.

Leave of absence.
—sick, not to affect regular.
1898, July 7, ch. 571, 2 Supp., 882.

The assistant superintendents of free delivery shall hereafter be allowed a per diem of four dollars in lieu of all expenses when traveling on business of the Department.

NOTE.—The expenses of the assistant superintendents of free delivery are paid out of the appropriation for incidental expenses. free delivery service, included in the act making appropriations for the postal service.

Approved February 24, 1899.

Assistant superintendents of free delivery.
1899, Feb. 24, ch. 187, 2 Supp., 946.
Expenses of. Note.

The thirty days' annual leave of absence with pay in any one year to clerks and employees in the several Executive Departments authorized by existing law shall be exclusive of Sundays and legal holidays.

Approved February 24, 1899.

Leave of absence, annual.—exclusive of Sundays and holidays.

The establishment of a civil pension roll or an honorable service roll, or the exemption of any of the officers, clerks, and persons in the public service from the existing laws respecting employment in such service, is hereby prohibited.

Approved February 24, 1899.

1899, Feb. 24, ch. 187, § 4, 2 Supp., 946.

The Postmaster-General is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to pay from appropriations for transportation by railroad routes for the special transfer and terminal service between the Union Station at East Saint Louis, Illinois, and the Union Station at Saint Louis, Missouri, including the use, lighting, and heating of mail building and the transfer service at Saint Louis, at the rate of not exceeding fifty thousand dollars per annum.

Approved March 1, 1899.

Civil pension roll prohibited.
1899, Feb. 24, ch. 187, § 4, 2 Supp., 946.

* * * Postmasters shall not issue any money order conditioned that identification of payee, endorsee, or attorney may be waived, nor shall any postmaster pay any money order * * * without requiring identification of the payee, endorsee, or attorney.

Approved March 1, 1899.

Special transfer service at St. Louis (Mo.) and East St. Louis (Ill.).
1899, Mar. 1, ch. 327, § 3, 2 Supp., 958.

—compensation for.

Money orders may be drawn by the Superintendent of the Money Order System without the exaction of an additional fee for the purpose of correcting errors made by issuing or paying postmasters.

Approved March 1, 1899.

Waiver of identification of payee forbidden.
1899, Mar. 1, ch. 327, § 5, 2 Supp., 959.

Orders may be drawn to correct errors without additional fee.
1899, Mar. 1, ch. 327, § 5, 2 Supp., 959.

Letters in "point print" or characters used by the blind. All letters written in point print or raised characters used by the blind, when unsealed, shall be transmitted through the mails as third-class matter. * * *

1899, Mar. 2, ch. 362, 2 Supp., 965. Approved March 2, 1899.

—to be transmitted at third-class rates.

Census mail matter. All mail matter, of whatever class, relative to the census and addressed to the Census Office, the Director of the Census, Assistant Director, chief clerk, supervisors, enumerators, or special agents, and indorsed "Official business, Department of the Interior, Census Office," shall be transmitted free of postage, * * * and so marked: *Provided*, That if any person shall make use of such

Penalty for use of indorsement for evasion of postage.

indorsement to avoid the payment of postage * * * on his or her private letter, package, or other matter in the mail, the person so offending shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of three hundred dollars, to be prosecuted in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Approved March 3, 1899.

Census matter free.

1899, Mar. 3, ch. 419, § 27, 2 Supp., 986.

All mail matter, of whatever class, relative to the census and addressed to the Census Office, the Director of the Census, Assistant Director, chief clerk, supervisors, enumerators, or special agents, and indorsed "Official business, Department of the Interior, Census Office," shall be transmitted free * * * by registered mail if necessary, and so marked: *Provided*, That if any person shall make use of such indorsement to avoid the payment of postage or registry fee on his or her private letter, package, or other matter in the mail, the person so offending shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of three hundred dollars, to be prosecuted in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Approved March 3, 1899.

Periodicals issued by State departments of agriculture.

1900, June 6, ch. 801, 31 Stat. L., 660.

—admission of as second-class matter.

—not to contain advertising matter.

All periodical publications issued from a known place of publication at stated intervals as frequently as four times a year by State departments of agriculture shall be admitted to the mails as second-class mail matter: *Provided*, That such matter shall be published only for the purpose of furthering the objects of such departments: *And provided further*, That such publications shall not contain any advertising matter of any kind.

Approved June 6, 1900.

That section one hundred and eighty-three of the Revised Statutes of the United States be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows:

Oath, when administered by officers, etc.

1901, Mar. 2, ch. 809, § 1, Stat. L., 951, par. 3.

"SEC. 183. Any officer or clerk of any of the Departments, lawfully detailed to investigate frauds on, or attempts to defraud, the Government, or any irregularity or misconduct of any officer or agent of the United States, and any officer of the Army detailed to conduct an investigation, and the recorder, and, if there be none, the presiding officer of any military board appointed for such purpose, shall have authority to administer an oath to any witness attending to testify or depose in the course of such investigation."

Approved March 2, 1901.

The Superintendent of System of Postal Finance shall give bond in such amount as the Postmaster-General may determine for the faithful discharge of his duties.

Bond of superintendent.
1901, Mar. 3,
ch. 830, 31
Stat. L., 1004.

Approved March 3, 1901.

The Postmaster-General may authorize the sale of post-route maps to the public at the cost of printing and ten per centum thereof added, the proceeds of such sales to be used as a further appropriation for the preparation and publication of post-route maps, * * *.

Sale of post-route maps.
1901, Mar. 3,
ch. 830, 31
Stat. L., 1005.
—proceeds of sales, how used.

Approved March 3, 1901.

The appropriations * * * made for the officers, clerks, and persons employed in the public service shall not be available for the compensation of any persons permanently incapacitated for performing such service.

Incapacitated employees.
1901, Mar. 3,
ch. 830, § 4,
31 Stat. L., 1009.
—not to be paid.
Note.

NOTE.—The above clause is taken from the current appropriation act, and merely refers thereto. A similar clause was included in the act of April 17, 1900, ch. 192, 31 Stat. L., 134.

Approved March 3, 1901.

That hereafter it shall be the duty of the heads of the several Executive Departments, and of other officers authorized or required to make estimates, to furnish to the Secretary of the Treasury, on or before the fifteenth day of October of each year, their annual estimates for the public service, to be included in the Book of Estimates prepared by law under his direction, and in case of failure to furnish estimates as herein required it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be prepared in the Treasury Department, on or before the first day of November of each year, estimates for such appropriations as in his judgment shall be requisite in every such case, which estimates shall be included in the Book of Estimates prepared by law under his direction for the consideration of Congress.

Estimates, annual, to be furnished to Secretary of Treasury.
1901, Mar. 3,
ch. 830, 31
Stat. L., 1009,
§ 5.

Approved March 3, 1901.

The act of March 3, 1901, making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government, and the act of March 3, 1901, making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department, provide for the following officers in the Post-Office Department:

Other officers of the Post-Office Department.
See R. S., §§ 393, 394, 400;
1901, Mar. 3,
chs. 830, 851,
31 Stat. L., 1003, 1103.
Office of the Postmaster-General.

✓ In the Office of the Postmaster-General:

Chief Clerk.

Private secretary to the Postmaster-General.

Appointment Clerk.

Disbursing Clerk and Superintendent of Buildings.

Topographer.

In the Office of the Assistant Attorney-General for the Post-Office Department:

Assistant Attorney.

Office of Assistant Attorney-General for Post-Office Department.
Office of First Assistant Postmaster-General.

In the Office of the First Assistant Postmaster-General:

Chief Clerk.

Superintendent of the Money-Order System.

Chief clerk of the Money-Order System.
 General Superintendent of Free Delivery.
 Superintendent City Delivery Service.
 Three assistant superintendents City Delivery Service.
 Superintendent of the Dead-Letter Office.
 Chief clerk of the Dead-Letter Office.
 General Superintendent of Salaries and Allowances.
 Assistant Superintendent of Salaries and Allowances.
 Five Assistant Superintendents Salary and Allowance Division.
 Superintendent of Post-Office Supplies.
 Assistant Superintendent of Post-Office Supplies.
 Chief of Correspondence Division.

Office of Second Assistant Postmaster-General.

In the Office of the Second Assistant Postmaster-General:

Chief Clerk.
 Superintendent of Railway Adjustment.
 Chief of Contract Division.
 Chief of Division of Inspection.
 Chief of Mail Equipment Division.
 General Superintendent Railway Mail Service.
 Assistant General Superintendent Railway Mail Service.
 Chief clerk, Office of General Superintendent.
 Superintendent of Foreign Mails.
 Chief Clerk of Foreign Mails.

Office of Third Assistant Postmaster-General.

In the Office of the Third Assistant Postmaster-General:

Chief Clerk.
 Superintendent of System of Postal Finance.
 Superintendent of Postage Stamp Supplies and Postmasters' Accounts.
 Superintendent of the Registry System.
 Six Assistant Superintendents of the Registry System.
 Chief of Classification Division.
 Chief of Redemption Division.
 Chief of Files and Records Division.

Office of Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General.

In the Office of the Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General:

Chief Clerk.
 Chief Post-Office Inspector.
 Chief clerk of (Division of Post-Office Inspectors and) Mail Depredations.
 Chief of Appointment Division.
 Chief of Bond Division.

Approved March 3, 1901.

Auditor, Chicago.

The act of March 3, 1901 (ch. 851, 31 Stat. L., 1102), provided an appropriation of three thousand dollars for an auditor at Chicago, Ill.

Approved March 3, 1901.

Allowances for miscellaneous items may be expended without specific authority, when.

1901, Mar. 3, ch. 851, 31 Stat. L., 1103.

The Postmaster-General, in his discretion, under such regulations as he shall prescribe, may authorize any of the postmasters of said (first and second class) offices to expend the funds he may allow them for such purposes (miscellaneous and incidental items, including furniture and cleaning) without the written consent of the Postmaster-General.

Approved March 3, 1901.

The assistant superintendents salary and allowance division will be allowed a per diem, to be fixed by the Postmaster-General, but not exceeding four dollars per day when actually traveling on business of the Post-Office Department.

Assistant superintendents salary and allowance division.
—expenses of.

NOTE.—This section is substantially in the form in which the appropriation for this purpose was made in the *act of March 3, 1901, ch. 851 (31 Stat. L., 1103)*, making appropriations for the postal service. The authority to allow a per diem to assistant superintendents salary and allowance division is not permanent, but dependent on subsequent appropriations.

Note.

Approved March 3, 1901.

The assistant superintendents of the registry system will be allowed a per diem, to be fixed by the Postmaster-General, but not exceeding four dollars per day, when actually traveling on business of the Post-Office Department.

Assistant superintendents of registry system.
—expenses of.

NOTE.—This section is substantially in the form in which the appropriation for this purpose was made in the *act of March 3, 1901, ch. 830 (31 Stat. L., 1004)*, making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government. The authority to allow a per diem to assistant superintendents of the Registry System is not permanent, but dependent on subsequent appropriations.

Note.

Approved March 3, 1901.

(The Postmaster-General may appoint a) General Superintendent (of Railway Mail Service), at (a salary of) three thousand five hundred dollars (per annum); one Assistant General Superintendent, at (a salary of) three thousand dollars (per annum); one chief clerk, office of General Superintendent at (a salary of), two thousand dollars (per annum); eleven division superintendents, at (a salary of) two thousand seven hundred dollars (per annum) each; (and) eleven assistant division superintendents at (a salary of) one thousand eight hundred dollars (per annum) each: * * *

General Superintendent Railway Mail Service.
1901, Mar. 3, ch. 851, 31 Stat. L., 1104.
Assistant general superintendent.
Chief clerk Railway Mail Service.
Division superintendents.
Assistant division superintendents.

Approved March 3, 1901.

(The Postmaster-General may appoint) twenty-two assistant superintendents (at a salary of), one thousand six hundred dollars (per annum) each; (and) ninety-five chief clerks, at (a salary of) one thousand six hundred dollars (per annum) each; * * *

Assistant superintendents.
1901, Mar. 3, ch. 851, 31 Stat. L., 1105.
Chief clerks in charge of lines.

Approved March 3, 1901.

(Division superintendents and assistant division superintendents shall be paid their actual and necessary expenses) while actually traveling on business of the Department and away from their several designated headquarters.

Expenses of division and assistant division superintendents.
1901, Mar. 3, ch. 851, 31 Stat. L., 1105.

Approved March 3, 1901.

Assistant superintendents (of Railway Mail Service) may receive a per diem allowance in lieu of actual and necessary traveling expenses, at the rate of four dollars per day while actually traveling on business of the Department away from their several designated headquarters.

Expenses of assistant superintendents.
1901, Mar. 3, ch. 851, 31 Stat. L., 1105.

—chief clerks
and postal
clerks.
Id.

2. (Chief clerks and railway postal clerks shall be paid their actual and necessary expenses) while actually traveling on business of the Department and away from their several designated headquarters.

Approved March 3, 1901.

Leaves of
absence with
pay.

1901, Mar.
3, ch. 851, 31
Stat. L., 1105.

The Postmaster-General may allow railway postal clerks whose duties require them to work six days or more per week, fifty-two weeks per year, an annual vacation of fifteen days, with pay.

Approved March 3, 1901.

Sea postal
clerks.

1901, Mar.
3, ch. 851, 31
Stat. L., 1106.

—compensa-
and expenses
of.

Hereafter the Postmaster-General shall be authorized to expend such sums as may be necessary, not exceeding fifty-five thousand dollars, to cover one-half of the cost of transportation, compensation, and expense of clerks to be employed in assorting and pouching mails in transit on steamships between the United States and other postal administrations of the International Postal Union.

Approved March 3, 1901.

Persons in-
capacitated
not to be em-
ployed in pos-
tal service.

1901, Mar. 3,
ch. 851, § 2, 31
Stat. L., 1107.

The appropriations * * * for the officers, clerks, and persons employed in the postal service shall not be available for the compensation of any persons permanently incapacitated for performing such service. The establishment of a civil pension roll or an honorable service roll, or the exemption of any of the officers, clerks, and persons in the postal service from the existing laws respecting employment in such service, is hereby prohibited.

Approved March 3, 1901.

Per diem al-
lowance to in-
spectors in the
field.

1901, Mar. 3,
ch. 851, 31
Stat. L., 1107.

—when made.
Proviso.

—while tem-
porarily locat-
ed at one
place.

—regulations
as to.

(Post-office inspectors in the field shall be allowed a per diem) while actually traveling on business for the Department: *Provided*, That the Postmaster-General may, in his discretion, allow post-office inspectors per diem while temporarily located at any place on duty away from home, or their designated domicile, for a period not exceeding twenty consecutive days at any one place, and may make rules and regulations governing the foregoing provisions relating to per diem.

Note.

Allowances
to inspectors
for expenses.

NOTE.—Sec. 4017, R. S., provided that inspectors (then special agents) should be allowed "for traveling and incidental expenses, while actually employed in the service, a sum not exceeding five dollars a day." Under the act of June 17, 1878, ch. 259, 1 Supp. R. S., 186, this amount was to be allowed to inspectors "when they are actually engaged in traveling on the business of the Department." The act of July 5, 1884, ch. 234, 1 Supp. R. S., 467, provided that inspectors "shall be allowed four dollars per day in lieu of the charges now permitted for personal expenses." Subsequently the annual appropriation acts merely contained an appropriation for "mail depredations and post-office inspectors" until the act of June 13, 1898, ch. 446, 30 Stat. L., 444, which provided for "per diem allowance to inspectors in the field while actually traveling on business of the Department." This clause was repeated in the act of March 1, 1899, ch. 327, 30 Stat. L., 965, 2 Supp. R. S., 958, and the proviso as contained in the act of March 3, 1901, was added,

the entire clause as it now stands being repeated in the act of June 2, 1900, ch. 613, 31 Stat. L., 260.

Approved March 3, 1901.

(The Postmaster-General may appoint) fifteen (post-office) inspectors in charge of divisions at (a salary of) two thousand five hundred dollars per annum (each) without per diem; fifteen inspectors at two thousand two hundred and fifty dollars per annum (each) without per diem, and fifteen inspectors at two thousand dollars per annum (each) without per diem.

Inspectors in charge and inspectors.

1901, Mar. 3, ch. 851, 31 Stat. L., 1107. —number of, and compensation.

NOTE.—The Chief Post-Office Inspector is an officer of the Post-Office Department, and his appointment and compensation are provided for in the regular departmental organization.

Note. Chief Post-Office Inspector.

The appointment of post-office inspectors in charge was first authorized by the act of June 17, 1878, ch. 259, 1 Supp. R. S., 186, which provided that such inspectors (called special agents at that time), "not exceeding ten in number, as are appointed by the Postmaster-General to duty at such important points as he may designate * * * shall each receive a salary of \$2,500 per annum and no more." The number of inspectors in charge was increased to twelve by the act of March 3, 1891, ch. 547, 1 Supp. R. S., 932, and to fifteen by the act of June 2, 1900, ch. 613, 31 Stat. L., 260.

—inspectors in charge.

Post-office inspectors, at \$2,000 per annum without per diem, were first provided for in the appropriation act of March 1, 1899, ch. 327, 30 Stat. L., 965; and the appointment of inspectors at \$2,250 per annum without per diem was first authorized by the act of June 2, 1900, supra. These inspectors are intended especially for local service in the large cities.

—inspectors without per diem.

The continued appointment of inspectors in charge in excess of twelve, and of inspectors at \$2,000 and \$2,250 per annum, is subject to subsequent appropriation acts, which see, as the authority for their appointment is not permanent.

Approved March 3, 1901.

When any publication has been accorded second-class mail privileges, the same shall not be suspended or annulled until a hearing shall have been granted to the parties interested.

Approved March 3, 1901.

Cancellation of certificate of entry.

1901, Mar. 3, ch. 851, 31 Stat. L., 1107. —hearing to be given before.

All mail matter sent by post by Ida S. McKinley, widow of the late William McKinley, under her written autograph signature, will be conveyed free of postage during her natural life.

Approved January 22, 1902.

Ida S. McKinley.

1902, Jan. 22, ch. 4, 32 Stat. L., 1237.

On and after July first, nineteen hundred and two, the Postmaster-General * * * is * * * authorized to classify the Rural Free-Delivery Service and fix the compensation to employees in such Service.

Classification and compensation.

1902, Apr. 21, ch. 563, 32 Stat. L., 1237.

Approved April 21, 1902.

Under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe, a substitute carrier may be employed at the expense of the regular carrier, to temporarily perform service on any rural free-delivery mail route.

Substitute carriers—employment and compensation.

1902, Apr. 21, ch. 563, 32 Stat. L., 113.

Approved April 21, 1902.

Indemnity
for lost regis-
tered mail.

Increase of
indemnity.

1902, Apr.
21, chap. 563;
32 Stat. L.,
117.

The Postmaster-General may increase the amount of indemnity (for last first-class registered mail) provided for in act of February 27, 1897, an act amendatory of section thirty-nine hundred and twenty-six of the Revised Statutes, to not exceeding one hundred dollars.

Approved April 21, 1902.

Rural postal
stations—pro-
vision for.

1903, Mar.
3, ch. 1009;
32 Stat. L.,
1171.

The act of March 3, 1903, provides "for pay of letter carriers and clerks in charge of substations of rural free-delivery service * * * *Provided*, That not exceeding * * * of the amount hereby appropriated for rural free-delivery service may be used for compensation of clerks in charge of substations." A similar provision has been made each succeeding year.

Approved March 3, 1903.

Special de-
livery at other
than free-de-
livery offices.

To provide for the payment of such persons as may be employed for this service the postmaster at any office designated by section three of this act (23 Stat. L., 388) shall keep a record of the number of letters received at such office bearing such special-delivery stamp, which shall correspond with the number entered in the receipt books heretofore specified, and at the end of the month he may pay to such person or persons employed a sum not exceeding eighty per centum of the face value of all such stamps received and recorded during that month: *Provided*, That nothing in this act shall interfere with the prompt delivery of letters as now provided by law or regulations of the Post-Office Department.

Approved March 3, 1903.

Special de-
livery messen-
ger deemed a
carrier, etc.

1903, Mar.
3, ch. 1009, sec.
4, 32 Stat. L.,
1176.

That every special-delivery messenger when actually engaged in carrying or delivering letters or other mail matter under contract, directly or indirectly, with the Post-Office Department, shall be deemed a carrier or person intrusted with the mail and having custody thereof within the meaning of sections thirty-eight hundred and sixty-nine, thirty-nine hundred and ninety-five, fifty-four hundred and seventy-two, and fifty-four hundred and seventy-three of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

Approved March 3, 1903.

Violent en-
try of R. P. O.
car or mali-
cious assault
on clerk.

1903, Mar.
3, ch. 1009,
sec. 5, 32 Stat.
L., 1176.

Whoever by violence enters a railway post-office car or any apartment in any railway car assigned to the use of the Railway Mail Service, or who wilfully or maliciously assaults a railway postal clerk in the discharge of his duties in connection with such car or apartment, and whoever wilfully aids or assists therein, shall for every such offense be punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than three years.

Approved March 3, 1903.

Injuring let-
ter boxes or re-
ceptacles or
mail matter
therein.

1903, Mar.
3, ch. 1009, §
3, 32 Stat. L.,
1176.

Whoever shall wilfully or maliciously injure, tear down, or destroy any letter box or other receptacle established by order of the Postmaster-General, or approved or designated by him for the receipt or delivery of mail matter on any rural free-delivery route, star route, or other mail route, or shall break open the same, or wilfully or maliciously injure, deface, or destroy any mail matter

deposited therein, or shall wilfully take or steal such matter from or out of such letter box or other receptacle, or shall wilfully aid or assist in any of the aforementioned offenses, shall for every such offense be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than three years.

Approved March 3, 1903.

That third and fourth class mail matter shall not be remailed to sender until the proper postage has been fully prepaid on the same: *Provided*, That in all cases when undelivered mail matter of the third and fourth class is of obvious value, the sender, if known, shall be given the opportunity of prepaying the return postage or accepting delivery to himself or upon his order at the office where it is held upon the payment of one cent postage for each card notice given him under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe.

Approved March 3, 1903.

No allowance in excess of two hundred dollars shall be made where the salary of the postmaster is one thousand dollars, one thousand one hundred dollars, and one thousand two hundred dollars; nor in excess of three hundred dollars where the salary of the postmaster is one thousand three hundred dollars, one thousand four hundred dollars, and one thousand five hundred dollars; nor in excess of four hundred dollars where the salary of the postmaster is one thousand six hundred dollars, one thousand seven hundred dollars, one thousand eight hundred dollars, and one thousand nine hundred dollars.

NOTE.—The act of March 2, 1907 (Public, No. 172), making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department, provides for allowance not in excess of five hundred dollars, from July 1, 1907, where the salary of the postmaster is one thousand eight hundred dollars or one thousand nine hundred dollars.

Approved April 28, 1904.

Assistant superintendents (Railway Mail Service) may receive a per diem allowance in lieu of actual and necessary traveling expenses at the rate of four dollars per day while actually traveling on business of the Department (away from their home, their official domicile and their headquarters.)

Approved April 28, 1904.

That there shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a Purchasing Agent for the Post-Office Department, who shall hold office for four years unless sooner removed by the President, and who shall receive an annual salary of four thousand dollars, give bond to the United States in such sum as the Postmaster-General may determine, and report direct to the Postmaster-General; and who shall, under such regulations, not inconsistent with existing law, as the Postmaster-General shall prescribe, and subject to his direction and control, have supervision of all purchase of all supplies for the postal service.

Prepayment of postage on returned second, third, and fourth class matter.

Undelivered mail matter.
1903, Mar. 3, ch. 1009, 32 Stat. L., 1176.

Allowances for clerk hire at distributing offices of third and fourth classes.

Limitation on allowance.
1904, Apr. 28, ch. 1759, 33 Stat. L., 433.

Per diem allowance to assistant superintendents.

1904, Apr. 28, ch. 1759, 33 Stat. L., 437.

Purchasing agent.—appointment of.

1904, Apr. 29, ch. 1759, 33 Stat. L., 440.

Bond. Duties.

Purchasing supplies. The Purchasing Agent, in making purchases for supplies necessary for the Post-Office Department, shall advertise, as now provided by law, and award contracts for such supplies to the lowest responsible bidder in pursuance of existing law. The Purchasing Agent shall have recorded in a book to be kept for that purpose a true and faithful abstract of all bids made for furnishing supplies to the Post-Office Department, giving the name of the party bidding, the terms of the offer, the sum to be paid, and he shall keep on file and preserve all such bids until the end of the contract term to which they relate. Each bidder shall have the right to be present, either in person or by attorney, when the bids are opened, and shall have the right to examine and inspect all bids.

Records of bids.

Inspection of bids. All purchases, advertisements, and contracts for supplies for the Post-Office Department shall be made by the Purchasing Agent in the name of the Postmaster-General, subject to his approval, and in purchasing such supplies preference shall be given to articles of domestic production and manufacture, conditions of price and quality being equal. There shall be separate proposals and separate contracts for each class of material furnished. These records shall be open at all times for the inspection of Congress, and for the inspection of those who may be interested in such contracts made, or to be made, to furnish supplies to the Post-Office Department. (Sec. 3, act of April 29, 1904.)

Preference to domestic productions.

Proposals.

Records to be open to inspection.

Approved April 29, 1904.

Carriers' salaries. Letter carriers of the rural delivery service shall receive a salary not exceeding seven hundred and twenty dollars per annum and no other or further allowance or salary shall be made to said carriers; and * * * rural carriers shall not solicit business or receive orders of any kind for any person, firm, or corporation, and shall not during their hours of employment carry any merchandise for hire: *Provided*, That said carriers may carry merchandise for hire for and upon the request of patrons residing upon their respective routes, whenever the same shall not interfere with the proper discharge of their official duties, and under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe.

—carriers, 1904, Apr. 28, ch. 1759, 33 Stat. L., 440.

Carriers prohibited from soliciting business.

—may carry merchandise for hire.

Approved April 28, 1904.

Mailing matter without stamps affixed. Under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may establish for the collection of the lawful revenue and for facilitating the handling of such matter in the mails it shall be lawful to accept for transmission in the mails quantities of not less than two thousand identical pieces of third or fourth class matter without postage stamps affixed: *Provided*, That postage shall be fully prepaid thereon at the rate required by law for a single piece of such matter.

1904, Apr. 28, ch. 1759, 33 Stat. L., 440.

Identical pieces of third and fourth class matter.

Approved April 28, 1904.

Official correspondence by Members of Congress. The Vice-President, Members, and Members-elect of and Delegates and Delegates-elect to Congress shall have the privilege of sending free through the mails, and under their frank, any mail matter to any Government official or to any person correspondence not exceeding four ounces in weight, upon official or departmental business.

1904, Apr. 28, ch. 1759, 33 Stat. L., 441.

Approved April 28, 1904.

Books, pamphlets, and other reading matter in raised characters for the use of the blind, whether prepared by hand or printed, in single volumes, not exceeding ten pounds in weight, or in packages not exceeding four pounds in weight, and containing no advertising or other matter whatever, unsealed, and when sent by public institutions for the blind, or by any public libraries, as a loan to blind readers, or when returned by the latter to such institutions or public libraries, shall be transmitted in the United States mails free of postage, and under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe.

Approved April 27, 1904.

Any person who shall submit or cause to be submitted to any postmaster or to the Post-Office Department or any officer of the postal service any false evidence relative to any publication for the purpose of securing the admission thereof at the second-class rate for transportation in the mails shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and for every such offense, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars.

Approved March 2, 1905.

When any clerk in post-offices of the first or second class, or in the Railway Mail Service, or any letter carrier in the city free-delivery service is absent from duty from any cause, other than the fifteen days' annual leave with pay allowed by law, the Postmaster-General, under such regulations as he may prescribe, may authorize the employment of a substitute for such work, and payment therefor from the lapsed salary of such absent clerk or letter carrier at a rate not to exceed the pay of the grade of work performed by such substitute.

Approved March 3, 1905.

Hereafter whenever it shall be shown to the satisfaction of the Postmaster-General that any postage is paid on any mail matter for which service is not rendered, or is collected in excess of the lawful rate, he may, in his discretion, authorize the postmaster at the office where paid to refund the proper amount out of the postal receipts in the possession of the postmaster.

Approved March 3, 1905.

No part of the appropriations made for printing and binding shall be used for any illustration, engraving, or photograph in any document or report ordered printed by Congress, unless the order to print expressly authorizes the same, nor in any document or report of any Executive Department or other Government establishment until the head of the Executive Department or Government establishment shall certify in a letter transmitting such report that the illustration is necessary and relates entirely to the transaction of public business.

Approved March 3, 1905.

Books, pamphlets, etc., for the blind.
1904, Apr. 27, ch. 1612, 33 Stat. L., 313.
—requirements to be entitled to transmission.

False evidence as to character of publication to secure entry as second class.
1905, Mar. 2, ch. 1304, 33 Stat. L., 823.

Employment and payment of substitute when clerk or carrier is absent other than on annual leave.
1905, Mar. 3, ch. 1480, 33 Stat. L., 1085.

Overcharges on mail matter.
1905, Mar. 3, ch. 1480, 33 Stat. L., 1091.
—may be refunded.

Restriction on illustration, etc.
1905, Mar. 3, ch. 1483, 33 Stat. L., 1213.

Restriction on printing books by Departments.

1905, Mar. 3, ch. 1483, 33 Stat. L., 1249.

Hereafter no book or document not having to do with the ordinary business transactions of the Executive Departments shall be printed on the requisition of any Executive Department or unless the same shall have been expressly authorized by Congress.

Approved March 3, 1905.

Release of sureties and renewal of postmasters' bonds.

Release from suretyship and approval of new bond.

1905, Mar. 3, ch. 1488, 33 Stat. L., 1259.

Whenever any postmaster, clerk, carrier, or other person in the postal service, employed in the Post-Office Department or elsewhere, notifies the Postmaster-General of his desire to execute a new bond, or whenever any of the sureties of such postmaster, clerk, carrier, or other person, notifies the Postmaster-General of his desire to be released from such suretyship, or whenever the Postmaster-General deems a new bond necessary or expedient, the execution of the new bond may be directed by the Postmaster-General. When accepted by the Postmaster-General, the sureties of postmasters in the prior bond shall be released from responsibility for all acts or defaults of the postmaster which may be done or committed subsequent to the last day of the quarter in which such new bond shall be executed and accepted, and the sureties of other persons in the prior bond shall be released from responsibility for all acts or defaults of such persons which may be done or committed subsequent to the day such new bond becomes operative.

Approved March 3, 1905.

Appropriation to be expended only for the objects specified.

Expenditures in excess of appropriations forbidden.

1906, Feb. 27, ch. 510, 34 Stat. L., 49.

Voluntary service.

No Executive Department or other Government establishment of the United States shall expend in any one fiscal year any sum in excess of appropriations made by Congress for that fiscal year, or involve the Government in any contract or other obligation for the future payment of money in excess of such appropriations, unless such contract or obligation is authorized by law. Nor shall any Department or any officer of the Government accept voluntary service for the Government or employ personal service in excess of that authorized by law, except in cases of sudden emergency involving the loss of human life or the destruction of property. All appropriations made for contingent expenses or other general purposes, except appropriations made in fulfillment of contract obligations expressly authorized by law, or for objects required or authorized by law without reference to the amounts annually appropriated therefor, shall, on or before the beginning of each fiscal year, be so apportioned by monthly or other allotments as to prevent expenditures in one portion of the year which may necessitate deficiency or additional appropriations to complete the service of the fiscal year for which said appropriations are

Exceptions in emergencies.

Appropriations for Congress.

Written orders required.

made; and all such apportionments shall be adhered to and shall not be waived or modified except upon the happening of some extraordinary emergency or unusual circumstance which could not be anticipated at the time of making such apportionment, but this provision shall not apply to the contingent appropriations of the Senate or House of Representatives; and in case said apportionments are waived or modified as herein provided, the same shall be waived or modified in writing by the head of such Executive Department or other Government establishment having control of

the expenditure, and the reasons therefor shall be fully set forth in each particular case and communicated to Congress in connection with estimates for any additional appropriations required on account thereof. Any person violating any provision of this section shall be summarily removed from office and may also be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not less than one month.

Penalty for violations.

Approved February 27, 1906.

The Postmaster-General is hereby authorized to sell as waste paper or otherwise dispose of the files of papers which have accumulated or may hereafter accumulate in post-offices that are not needed in the transaction of current business and have no permanent value or historic interest, and pay the proceeds of said sales into the Treasury as postal revenues.

Disposition of files of papers in post-offices.

1906, May 11, ch. 2448, 34 Stat. L., 186.

Approved May 11, 1906.

The act of June 22, 1906, making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government, and the act of June 26, 1906, making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department, provide for the following officers in the Post-Office Department:

Other officers of the Post-Office Department.

See R. S., §§ 393, 394, 400; 1906, June 22, ch. 3514; 1906, June 26, ch. 3546; 34 Stat. L., 436, 437, 438, 439, 467-478.

Office of the Postmaster-General.

In the Office of the Postmaster-General:

Chief Clerk and Superintendent of Post-Office Department Building.

Private Secretary to the Postmaster-General.

Disbursing Clerk.

Appointment Clerk.

Clerk, Assistant to Chief Clerk.

Chief Inspector.

Chief Clerk to Chief Inspector.

Purchasing Agent.

Chief Clerk to Purchasing Agent.

Assistant Attorney.

Assistant Attorney.

Law Clerk.

In the Office of the First Assistant Postmaster-General:

Chief Clerk.

Superintendent Division of Salaries and Allowances.

Assistant Superintendent Division of Salaries and Allowances.

Chief Division of Correspondence.

Chief Division of Appointments.

Chief Division of Bonds and Commissions.

Superintendent Division of City Delivery.

Assistant Superintendent Division of City Delivery.

Office of the First Assistant Postmaster-General.

In the Office of the Second Assistant Postmaster-General:

Chief Clerk.

Superintendent Division of Railway Adjustments.

Assistant Superintendent Division of Railway Adjustments, and Law Clerk.

Superintendent Division of Foreign Mails.

Assistant Superintendent Division of Foreign Mails with headquarters in New York, N. Y.

Office of the Second Assistant Postmaster-General.

Chief Clerk Division of Foreign Mails.
 Chief Division of Contracts.
 Chief Division of Mail Equipment.
 General Superintendent Railway Mail Service.
 Assistant General Superintendent Railway Mail Service.
 Chief Clerk Office of General Superintendent Railway Mail Service.
 Assistant Chief Clerk Office of General Superintendent Railway Mail Service.

Office of the
 Third Assistant
 Postmaster-General.

In the Office of the Third Assistant Postmaster-General:

Chief Clerk.
 Superintendent Division of Stamps.
 Superintendent Division of Finance.
 Assistant Superintendent Division of Finance.
 Superintendent Division of Classification.
 Four Special Agents Division of Classification.
 Chief Division of Redemption.
 Superintendent Division of Registered Mails.
 Six Assistant Superintendents Division of Registered Mails.
 Superintendent Division of Money Orders.
 Chief Clerk to Superintendent Division of Money Orders.

Office of the
 Fourth Assistant-
 Postmaster-General.

In the Office of the Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General:

Chief Clerk.
 Superintendent Division of Rural Delivery.
 Assistant Superintendent Division of Rural Delivery.
 Superintendent Division of Dead Letters.
 Superintendent Division of Supplies.
 Assistant Superintendent Division of Supplies.
 Topographer.
 Assistant Topographer.

Approved June 22, 1906.

Act June 26,
 1906, ch. 3546,
 34 Stat. L.,
 467.

(The Postmaster-General may appoint) fifteen inspectors in charge of divisions at three thousand dollars each; ten inspectors at two thousand four hundred dollars each; fifteen inspectors at two thousand two hundred and fifty dollars each; fifteen inspectors at two thousand dollars each; ten inspectors at one thousand eight hundred dollars each; one hundred and thirty inspectors at one thousand six hundred dollars each; one hundred and ten inspectors at one thousand four hundred dollars each; and seventy-two inspectors at one thousand two hundred dollars each. * * * *Provided*, That all persons employed on the thirtieth day of June, nineteen hundred and six, as superintendents of division, rural delivery, shall, on July first, nineteen hundred and six, be appointed as post-office inspectors of the grade of one thousand eight hundred dollars per year: *And provided further*, That all persons employed on June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and six, as rural agents shall, on July first, nineteen hundred and six, be appointed as post-office inspectors, except not to exceed one hundred and forty-seven of such agents shall be so appointed as post-office inspectors.

Approved June 26, 1906.

The Postmaster-General shall require all railroads carrying the mails under contract to comply with the terms of said contract as to the time of arrival and departure of said mails, and it shall be his duty to impose and collect reasonable fines for delay when such delay is not caused by unavoidable accidents or conditions.

NOTE.—The act of March 2, 1907, making appropriation for the service of the Post-Office Department from July 1, 1907, changes the words "under contract to comply with the terms of said contract" to "to maintain their regular train schedules."

Approved June 26, 1906.

NOTE.—The act of June 26, 1906, provides: "Railway Mail Service: One general superintendent, at \$4,000; one assistant general superintendent, at \$3,500; one chief clerk, office of general superintendent, at \$2,000; one assistant chief clerk, office of general superintendent, at \$1,800; eleven division superintendents, at \$3,000 each; eleven assistant division superintendents, at \$1,800 each; five assistant superintendents, at \$1,800 each; nineteen assistant superintendents, at \$1,600 each." The act of March 2, 1907, making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department, fixes the salaries of assistant division superintendents at \$2,000 a year, and of the two classes of assistant superintendents above named at \$2,000 and \$1,800 each a year from July 1, 1907.

Approved June 26, 1906.

The Postmaster-General shall require, when in freightable lots and whenever practicable, the withdrawal from the mails of all postal cards, stamped envelopes, newspaper wrappers, empty mail bags, furniture, equipment, and other supplies for the postal service except postage stamps in the respective weighing divisions of the country immediately preceding the weighing period in said divisions, and thereafter such postal cards, stamped envelopes, newspaper wrappers, empty mail bags, furniture, equipment, and other supplies for the postal service, except postage stamps, shall be transmitted by either freight or express.

Approved June 26, 1906.

In the assignment or transfer of clerks from the Railway Mail Service, preference shall be given to the persons honorably discharged from the military or naval service who served in the civil war and who are now serving as clerks on the railway mail cars, in order that they may be transferred to clerical service in the Department or in the post-offices and relieved from service on said cars as rapidly as practicable, provided they are found to possess the business capacity necessary for the proper discharge of the duties of the office to which they may be transferred.

Approved March 3, 1905.

No article, package, or other matter, except postage stamps, stamped envelopes, newspaper wrappers, postal cards, and internal-revenue stamps, shall be admitted to the mails under a penalty

Railroads to comply with contracts as to time of arrival and departure of mails.

1906, June 26, ch. 3546, 34 Stat. L., 472.

Railway Mail Service, officials; salaries.

1906, June 26, ch. 3546, 34 Stat. L., 473.

Withdrawal of postal cards, etc., during weighing seasons.

1906, June 26, ch. 3546, 34 Stat. L., 473.

1907, Mar. 2, (Public, No. 172).

Certain preference given in the assignment or transfer from the Railway Mail Service.

(1905, Mar. 3, ch. 1480, 33 Stat. L., 1088.)

1906, June 26, ch. 3546, 34 Stat. L., 474.

Penalty privilege.

Limited to strictly mail matter.

1906, June 26, ch. 3546, 34 Stat. L., 477.

privilege unless such article, package, or other matter, except postage stamps, stamped envelopes, newspaper wrappers, postal cards, and internal-revenue stamps, shall be entitled to admission to the mails under law requiring payment of postage.

Approved June 26, 1906.

Carriers' leave of absence with pay. 1906, June 26, ch. 3546, 34 Stat. L., 477. 1907, Mar. 2 (Public, No. 172).

Rural letter carriers, after twelve months' service, (will) be allowed annual leave, with pay, not to exceed fifteen days; the substitutes for carriers on vacation to be paid during said service at the rate of six hundred dollars per annum.

Approved June 26, 1906.

Compensation of clerks in post-offices of first and second classes.

Salary of Government employees.

1906, June 30, ch. 3914, 34 Stat. L., 763.

Division. Computation.

Where the compensation of any person in the service of the United States is annual or monthly the following rules for division of time and computation of pay for services rendered are hereby established: Annual compensation shall be divided into twelve equal installments, one of which shall be the pay for each calendar month; and in making payments for a fractional part of a month one-thirtieth of one of such installments, or of a monthly compensation, shall be the daily rate of pay. For the purpose of computing such compensation and for computing time for services rendered during a fractional part of a month in connection with annual or monthly compensation, each and every month shall be held to consist of thirty days without regard to the actual number in any calendar month, thus excluding the thirty-first of any calendar month from the computation and treating February as if it actually had thirty days. Any person entering the service of the United States during a thirty-one-day month and serving until the end thereof shall be entitled to pay for that month from the date of entry to the thirtieth day of said month, both days inclusive; and any person entering said service during the month of February and serving until the end thereof shall be entitled to one month's pay, less as many thirtieths thereof as there were days elapsed prior to date of entry: *Provided*, That for one day's unauthorized absence on the thirty-first day of any calendar month one day's pay shall be forfeited.

Approved June 30, 1906.

Reports to Congress.

—of revenues and expenditures for current and ensuing fiscal years.

1907, Mar. 2, ch. 2513, 34 Stat. L., 1217.

The Postmaster-General shall each year prepare and submit in his annual report to Congress estimates of the revenue and expenditures in the postal service for the fiscal year current and also for the fiscal year next ensuing at the time said report is submitted, together with a statement of the receipts and expenditures for the preceding completed fiscal year.

Approved March 2, 1907.

Inspectors.—expenses.

1907, Mar. 2, ch. 2513, 34 Stat. L., 1205.

The act of March 2, 1907, provides "for traveling expenses of inspectors without per diem allowances, inspectors-in-charge, and the chief post-office inspector, and expenses incurred by inspectors not covered by per diem allowance."

Approved March 2, 1907.

Post-office inspectors in the field (shall be allowed a per diem) while actually traveling on official business away from their home, their official domicile, and their headquarters, at a rate to be fixed by the Postmaster-General, not to exceed four dollars per day; Provided, that the Postmaster-General may, in his discretion, allow inspectors *per diem* while temporarily located at any place on business away from their home, or their designated domicile, for a period not exceeding twenty consecutive days at any one place, and make rules and regulations governing the foregoing provisions relating to *per diem*.

Approved March 2, 1907.

The Postmaster-General may, from time to time, designate any officer of the Post-Office Department above the grade of fourth-class clerk or any employee in the office of the Third Assistant Postmaster-General above the grade of a clerk of Class E to sign warrants, "collection" and "transfer" drafts in his stead, and such warrants and drafts when so signed shall be of the same validity as if signed by the Postmaster-General.

Approved March 2, 1907.

On and after July 1, 1907, letter carriers of the Rural Delivery Service shall receive a salary not exceeding nine hundred dollars per annum: *Provided*, That rural letter carriers after twelve months' service shall be allowed annual leave with pay not to exceed fifteen days.

Approved March 2, 1907.

(On and after July 1, 1907) substitutes for (rural) carriers on vacation (shall) be paid during said service at the rate paid the carrier.

Approved March 2, 1907.

After June 30, 1907, clerks in offices of the first and second class and carriers in the city delivery service shall be divided into six grades, as follows: First grade, salary six hundred dollars; second grade, salary eight hundred dollars; third grade, salary nine hundred dollars; fourth grade, salary one thousand dollars; fifth grade, salary one thousand one hundred dollars; sixth grade, salary one thousand two hundred dollars. Clerks and carriers at first-class offices shall be promoted successively to the fifth grade, and clerks and carriers at second-class offices shall be promoted successively to the fourth grade.

After June 30, 1907, all promotions of both clerks and carriers shall be made at the beginning of the quarter following the expiration of a year's service in the next lower grade. No promotion shall be made except upon evidence satisfactory to the Post-Office Department of the efficiency and faithfulness of the employee during the preceding year. The Post-Office Department may reduce a clerk or carrier from a higher to a lower grade whenever his efficiency falls below a fair standard or whenever necessary for purposes of discipline. When a clerk or carrier has been reduced in salary, he may be restored to his former grade or advanced to any intermediate grade at the beginning of any quarter following the reduction, on evidence that his record has been satis-

Per diem allowance to inspectors in the field.
(1901, Mar. 3, ch. 851, 31 Stat. L., 1107.)
1907, Mar. 2, ch. 2513; 34 Stat. L., 1205.
—when made.
Proviso.
—while temporarily located at one place.
—regulations as to.

Designation of officers to sign warrants.
(1903, Mar. 3, ch. 1009, § 6, 32 Stat. L., 1176.)
1907, Mar. 2, ch. 2513; 34 Stat. L., 1206.

Rural carriers—salary.
1907, Mar. 2, ch. 2513; 34 Stat. L., 1215.
—annual leave.

1907, Mar. 2, ch. 2513; 34 Stat. L., 1215.

Clerks in first and second class offices and carriers in city delivery service shall be divided into grades.
1907, Mar. 2, ch. 2513; 34 Stat. L., 1206.
—shall be promoted successively.

—may be promoted upon satisfactory evidence.

—may be reduced in grade.

—may be restored to former grade or advanced to intermediate grade.

—may be promoted at the beginning of second or subsequent quarter, when.

—eligible for promotion to higher positions.

Clerks may be transferred to carrier, and carriers to clerk's service.

Limitation on promotion.

Auxiliary employees.

Substitutes.

Leave of absence. —clerks in post-offices. —construction.

1907, Mar. 2,

Adjustment of compensation; conditions and rates. Compensation further reduced.

1907, Mar. 2, ch. 2513; 34 Stat. L., 1212.

factory during the intervening period. When a clerk or carrier fails of promotion because of unsatisfactory service, he may be promoted at the beginning of the second quarter thereafter, or of any subsequent quarter, on evidence that his record has been satisfactory during the intervening period. Clerks and carriers of the highest grade in their respective offices shall be eligible for promotion to the higher positions in said post-offices.

After June 30, 1907, any clerk shall be eligible for transfer to the service of a carrier, and any carrier shall be eligible for transfer to the service of a clerk, such transfer to be made to any grade not higher than the corresponding grade of salary, and the time which such clerk or carrier shall have served in the grade from which such transfer was made shall be counted in connection with the service to which such transfer may be made in computing the time of service necessary to entitle such employees to promotion: *Provided*, That no clerk or carrier shall be promoted more than one grade within any one year's period of service: *Provided, however*, That the carriers who, on June 30, 1907, are regularly employed at a salary of eight hundred dollars per annum shall be promoted to the fourth grade upon evidence satisfactory to the Post-Office Department of the efficiency and faithfulness of the employee during at least one year's service.

After June 30, 1907, auxiliary employees may be employed, to be paid for actual services at the rate of thirty cents an hour: *Provided*, That such employees shall be required to work not less than two hours daily and may serve as substitutes: *And provided further*, That such employees shall be eligible for appointment as clerks and carriers of the first grade.

After June 30, 1907, substitutes may be employed, to be paid at the rate of thirty cents an hour when serving for absent clerks* and carriers: *Provided*, That such substitutes shall be eligible for appointment as auxiliary employees and as clerks and carriers of the first grade.

Approved March 2, 1907.

The leave of absence authorized by law to clerks in post-offices shall be construed exclusive of Sundays and holidays.

Approved March 2, 1907.

1907, Mar. 2, ch. 2513; 34 Stat. L., 1213.

The Postmaster-General is hereby authorized and directed to readjust the compensation to be paid from and after the first day of July, nineteen hundred and seven, for the transportation of mail on railroad routes carrying their whole length an average weight of mails per day of upward of five thousand pounds by making the following changes in the present rates per mile per annum for the transportation of mail on such routes, and hereafter the rates on such routes shall be as follows: On routes carrying their whole length an average weight of mail per day of more than five thousand pounds and less than forty-eight thousand pounds the rates shall be five per centum less than the present rates on all weight carried in excess of five thousand pounds; and on routes carrying their whole length an average weight of mail per day of more than forty-eight thousand pounds

the rate shall be five per centum less than the present rates on all weight carried in excess of five thousand pounds up to forty-eight thousand pounds, and for each additional two thousand pounds in excess of forty-eight thousand pounds at the rate of nineteen dollars and twenty-four cents upon all roads other than land-grant roads, and upon all land-grant roads the rate shall be seventeen dollars and ten cents for each two thousand pounds carried in excess of said forty-eight thousand pounds.

Approved March 2, 1907.

After July 1, 1907, additional pay allowed for every line comprising a daily trip each way of railway post-office cars shall be at a rate not exceeding twenty-five dollars per mile per annum for cars forty feet in length and twenty-seven dollars and fifty cents per mile per annum for forty-five-foot cars, and thirty-two dollars and fifty cents per mile per annum for fifty-foot cars, and forty dollars per mile per annum for cars fifty-five feet or more in length.

Approved March 2, 1907.

Acting or substitute city letter carriers, rural letter carriers, post-office clerks, railway mail clerks, and other employees connected with the postal service who are temporary employees, shall be paid at the usual rate for each day's service during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, and thereafter.

Approved March 2, 1907.

From and after July first, nineteen hundred and seven, when in addition to the stamps required to transmit any letter or package of mail matter through the mails there shall be attached to the envelope or covering ten cents' worth of ordinary stamps of any denomination, with the words "special delivery" or their equivalent written or printed on the envelope or covering, under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe, the said package shall be handled, transmitted, and delivered in all respects as though it bore a regulation "special-delivery" stamp.

Approved March 2, 1907.

The provisions of section 6 of the act of June 30, 1906, making appropriations for the sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, shall not be construed to prevent acting or substitute city letter carriers, rural letter carriers, post-office clerks, railway mail clerks, and other employees connected with the postal service who are temporary employees, being paid during the fiscal year 1907 at the usual rate for each day's actual service.

Approved March 4, 1907.

NOTE.—The act of March 2, 1907 (Public, No. 172), making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department (effective July 1, 1907), provides that there shall not be allowed, for use in any third-class post-office, for rent a sum in excess of four hundred and eighty dollars, nor more than eighty dollars for fuel and light in any one year.

Additional pay for railway post-office lines.

1907, Mar. 2, ch. 2513; 34 Stat. L., 1212.—rates of.

Carriers, clerks, etc. —acting or substitute.

1907, Mar. 2, ch. 2513; 34 Stat. L., 1213.

Special delivery mail.

1907, Mar. 2, ch. 2561; 34 Stat. L., 1244.—use of ordinary stamps authorized.

Carriers, clerks, etc.

Temporary services; payment for actual service.

1907, Mar. 4, ch. 2919; 34 Stat. L., 1391.

Expenditures for rent, light, and fuel at first, second, and third class offices.

Inspectors.
—number.
—salaries.

It provides also for ten inspectors at one thousand eight hundred dollars each; one hundred and thirty inspectors at one thousand six hundred dollars each; one hundred and ten inspectors at one thousand four hundred dollars each; and seventy-two inspectors at one thousand two hundred dollars each.

Approved March 2, 1907.

Acting Postmaster - General.

—who may be in Post-Office Department.

Executive Order Jan. 6, 1893.

NOTE.—Pursuant to the authority conferred by section 179 of the Revised Statutes: The Second Assistant Postmaster-General is authorized and directed to perform the duties of the Postmaster-General, whenever and so long as he and the First Assistant Postmaster-General shall both be absent or sick; and the Third Assistant Postmaster-General is authorized and directed to perform the duties of Postmaster-General whenever and so long as he and the First and Second Assistant Postmasters-General shall be absent or sick. And the Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General is authorized and directed to perform the duties of Postmaster-General whenever and so long as he and the First, Second, and Third Assistant Postmasters-General shall all be absent or sick.

Approved January 6, 1893.

Rates of compensation for electric or cable-car service.

See 1906,

June 26, ch. 3546, 34 Stat.

L., 474; 1907,

Mar. 2 (Public, No. 172).

NOTE.—The acts making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department for the fiscal years ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and seven, and June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and eight, include appropriations for transportation of mail by electric and cable cars, and provide that the rate of compensation to be paid per mile shall not exceed the rate now paid to companies performing such service, except that the Postmaster-General, in cases where the quantity of mail is large and the number of exchange points numerous, may, in his discretion, authorize payment for closed-pouch service at a rate per mile not to exceed one-third above the rate per mile now paid for closed-pouch service; and for mail cars and apartments carrying the mails, not to exceed the rate of one cent per linear foot per car mile of travel: *Provided further*, That the rates for electric-car service on routes over twenty miles in length outside of cities shall not exceed the rates paid for service on steam railroads.

Approved June 26, 1906.

Railway postal clerks.

R. S., sec. 4024, 4025.

1882, July 3, ch. 361, 22 Stat. L., 180.

1895, Feb. 28, ch. 140, 28 Stat. L., 692.

1900, June 3, ch. 613, 31 Stat. L., 258.

1902, Apr. 21, ch. 563, 32 Stat. L., 115.

1903, Mar. 3, ch. 1009, 32 Stat. L., 1172.

1906, June 26, ch. 3546, 34 Stat. L., 473.

—classification and salaries.

NOTE.—The Postmaster-General may appoint clerks for the purpose of assorting and distributing the mail in railway post-offices * * * (who) shall * * * be designated as railway postal clerks, and (be) divided into six classes, whose salaries shall not exceed the following rates per annum:

- Class 1, at not exceeding eight hundred dollars;
- Class 2, at not exceeding nine hundred dollars;
- Class 3, at not exceeding one thousand dollars;
- Class 4 (B), at not exceeding one thousand one hundred dollars;
- Class 4 (A), at not exceeding one thousand two hundred dollars;
- Class 5 (B), at not exceeding one thousand three hundred dollars;
- Class 5 (A), at not exceeding one thousand four hundred dollars;

Class 6, at not exceeding one thousand five hundred dollars;

Chief clerks, at not exceeding one thousand six hundred dollars;

Provided, That the Postmaster-General, in fixing the salaries of clerks in the different classes, may fix different salaries for clerks of the same class, according to the amount of work done and the responsibility incurred by each, but shall not, in any case, allow a higher salary to any clerk of any class than the maximum fixed by this section for the class to which such clerk belongs. Clerks in same class may be paid different salaries.

ADDITIONAL NOTE.—The act of March 2, 1907, making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department fixes the salaries of railway postal clerks from July 1, 1907, as follows:

Class 1 (B), at not exceeding eight hundred dollars;

Class 1 (A), at not exceeding nine hundred dollars;

Class 2, at not exceeding one thousand dollars;

Class 3, at not exceeding one thousand one hundred dollars;

Class 4 (B), at not exceeding one thousand two hundred dollars;

Class 4 (A), at not exceeding one thousand three hundred dollars;

Class 5 (B), at not exceeding one thousand four hundred dollars;

Class 5 (A), at not exceeding one thousand five hundred dollars;

Class 6, at not exceeding one thousand six hundred dollars;

Chief clerks, at not exceeding one thousand eight hundred dollars; and provides further that after such date railway mail clerks on entering the service shall receive the salary of the lowest grade, and no clerk shall be advanced more than two hundred dollars in any period of one year's service.

REFERENCE INDEX

TO THE

REVISED STATUTES AND STATUTES OF THE UNITED STATES,
FROM SECTIONS OF THE REVISED STATUTES, THE SUPPLE-
MENTS THERETO, AND SUBSEQUENT VOLUMES OF THE
STATUTES AT LARGE TO SECTIONS OF THE POSTAL LAWS
AND REGULATIONS, EDITION OF 1902.

"Note" under "Remarks" indicates that the statute is referred to in the note to the section quoted;
"Ref." that it is referred to either in the margin, in the body, or at the end of the section cited.

Act of Congress.	Title.	Chap.	Sec.	Approved.	P. L. & R.	Remarks.
					Sec.	
Revised Statutes.....	IV	.....	161	Aug. 15, 1876	14	
Do.....	IV	.....	163	Mar. 3, 1853	23	
Do.....	IV	.....	166	.....do.....	28	
Do.....	IV	.....	170	Feb. 28, 1867	108	Note.
Do.....	IV	.....	177	July 23, 1868	7	
Do.....	IV	.....	178	.....do.....	7	
Do.....	IV	.....	179	.....do.....	7	
Do.....	IV	.....	182	.....do.....	108	
Do.....	IV	.....	183	Apr. 10, 1869	225	
Do.....	IV	.....	184	Feb. 14, 1871	155	
Do.....	IV	.....	185	.....do.....	155	Note.
Do.....	IV	.....	186	.....do.....	155	Note.
Do.....	IV	.....	187	.....do.....	155	Note.
Do.....	IV	.....	188	June 25, 1868	155	Note.
Do.....	IV	.....	193	Aug. 26, 1842	92	
Do.....	IV	.....	195	Dec. 1, 1873	94	
Do.....	VII	1	236	Mar. 3, 1817	158	
Do.....	VII	3	270	June 8, 1872	171	
Do.....	VII	4	276	Mar. 3, 1875	5	
Do.....	VII	4	277	.....do.....	160	Ref.
Do.....	VII	4	277	.....do.....	161	
Do.....	VII	4	292	June 8, 1872	173	
Do.....	VII	4	293	.....do.....	168	
Do.....	VII	4	294	.....do.....	162	
Do.....	VII	4	295	.....do.....	197	
Do.....	VII	4	296	.....do.....	190	
Do.....	VII	4	297	.....do.....	166	
Do.....	VII	4	298	.....do.....	166	
Do.....	VIII	.....	381	.....do.....	191	
Do.....	VIII	.....	382	.....do.....	189	
Do.....	IX	.....	388	.....do.....	2	
Do.....	IX	.....	389	Mar. 3, 1877	3	
Do.....	IX	.....	390	June 8, 1872	4	
Do.....	IX	.....	391	Mar. 5, 1874	207	
Do.....	IX	.....	392	June 8, 1872	208	
Do.....	IX	.....	393	.....do.....	6	Ref.
Do.....	IX	.....	394	Mar. 3, 1873	6	Ref.
Do.....	IX	.....	395	June 8, 1872	13	
Do.....	IX	.....	396	Mar. 3, 1877	12	
Do.....	IX	.....	397	June 8, 1872	75	
Do.....	IX	.....	398	.....do.....	519	
Do.....	IX	.....	399	.....do.....	520	
Do.....	IX	.....	400	.....do.....	6	Ref.
Do.....	IX	.....	401	.....do.....	61	
Do.....	IX	.....	402	.....do.....	64	
Do.....	IX	.....	403	.....do.....	63	
Do.....	IX	.....	404	.....do.....	1274	
Do.....	IX	.....	405	.....do.....	170	
Do.....	IX	.....	406	.....do.....	152	

Reference index to the Revised Statutes and Statutes of the United States, etc.—Continued.

Act of Congress.	Title.	Chap.	Sec.	Approved.	P. L. & R.	Remarks.
					Sec.	
Revised Statutes.....	IX	.....	407	June 8, 1872	119	
Do.....	IX	.....	408	.....do.....	121	
Do.....	IX	.....	409	.....do.....	198	
Do.....	IX	.....	410	.....do.....	199	
Do.....	IX	.....	411	.....do.....	199	
Do.....	IX	.....	412	.....do.....	223	
Do.....	IX	.....	413	.....do.....	89	
Do.....	IX	.....	414	.....do.....	145	
Do.....	XIII	3	563	Mar. 3, 1845	178	
Do.....	XIII	3	563	Mar. 3, 1875	1562	
Do.....	XIII	7	629	Mar. 3, 1845	178	
Do.....	XIII	7	629	Feb. 19, 1875	1562	
Do.....	XIII	14	775	June 8, 1872	192	
Do.....	XIII	14	792	July 2, 1836	193	
Do.....	XIII	17	882	May 31, 1854	184	Note.
Do.....	XIII	17	889	July 27, 1868	184	
Do.....	XIII	17	890	.....do.....	185	
Do.....	XIII	18	919	June 8, 1872	178	
Do.....	XIII	18	924	Feb. 23, 1865	187	
Do.....	XIII	18	925	.....do.....	188	
Do.....	XIII	18	926	.....do.....	188	Note.
Do.....	XIII	18	927	.....do.....	188	Note.
Do.....	XIII	18	928	.....do.....	188	Note.
Do.....	XIII	18	929	.....do.....	188	Note.
Do.....	XIII	18	930	.....do.....	188	Note.
Do.....	XIII	18	931	.....do.....	188	Note.
Do.....	XIII	18	932	.....do.....	188	Note.
Do.....	XIII	18	933	.....do.....	188	Note.
Do.....	XIII	18	951	Mar. 3, 1797	186	Note.
Do.....	XIII	18	952	July 2, 1836	186	
Do.....	XIII	18	958	.....do.....	183	
Do.....	XIII	18	964	.....do.....	182	
Do.....	XIII	18	975	May 8, 1792	195	
Do.....	XIII	18	976	Feb. 28, 1799	195	
Do.....	XIII	18	1014	Aug. 22, 1842	1563	
Do.....	XVI	.....	1629	Apr. 30, 1810	215	
Do.....	XIX	.....	1754	Mar. 3, 1865	26	
Do.....	XIX	.....	1758	Aug. 6, 1861	207	
Do.....	XIX	3	1763	Aug. 31, 1852	213	
Do.....	XIX	.....	1764	Aug. 26, 1842	108	
Do.....	XIX	7	1765	Aug. 23, 1842	154	
Do.....	XIX	.....	1766	May 20, 1836	177	
Do.....	XIX	.....	1778	July 29, 1854	208	
Do.....	XIX	.....	1781	Feb. 25, 1863	1596	
Do.....	XIX	.....	1782	June 11, 1864	1597	
Do.....	XIX	.....	1784	Feb. 1, 1870	222	
Do.....	XXXXVI	.....	3466	Mar. 2, 1799	173	Note.
Do.....	XXXXVI	.....	3467	.....do.....	173	Note.
Do.....	XXXXVIII	.....	3576	Apr. 7, 1866	142	
Do.....	XL	.....	3614	Aug. 4, 1854	16	Ref.
Do.....	XL	.....	3615	Feb. 12, 1873	362	Ref.
Do.....	XL	.....	3620	Feb. 27, 1877	102	
Do.....	XL	.....	3622	.....do.....	98	Ref.
Do.....	XL	.....	3623	Mar. 3, 1809	98	Ref.
Do.....	XL	.....	3641	June 8, 1872	120	
Do.....	XL	.....	3642	Aug. 6, 1846	123	
Do.....	XL	.....	3644	.....do.....	130	
Do.....	XL	.....	3648	Jan. 31, 1823	106	
Do.....	XL	.....	3651	June 3, 1864	103	
Do.....	XLI	.....	3660	Aug. 26, 1842	97	Ref.
Do.....	XLI	.....	3661	May 8, 1872	97	Ref.
Do.....	XLI	.....	3662	Mar. 3, 1855	97	Ref.
Do.....	XLI	.....	3663	Feb. 27, 1877	97	Ref.
Do.....	XLI	.....	3664	Mar. 3, 1855	97	Ref.
Do.....	XLI	.....	3665	June 2, 1858	97	Ref.
Do.....	XLI	.....	3668	June 8, 1872	145	
Do.....	XLI	.....	3669	Aug. 15, 1876	97	Ref.
Do.....	XLI	.....	3674	June 8, 1872	148	
Do.....	XLI	.....	3678	Feb. 12, 1868	104	
Do.....	XLI	.....	3679	July 12, 1870	104	
Do.....	XLI	.....	3682	.....do.....	104	
Do.....	XLI	.....	3683	Aug. 26, 1842	104	
Do.....	XLI	.....	3690	July 12, 1870	104	Ref.
Do.....	XLI	.....	3690	.....do.....	109	
Do.....	XLI	.....	3691	June 20, 1874	104	Ref.
Do.....	XLII	.....	3708	Feb. 5, 1867	1591	
Do.....	XLIII	.....	3709	June 22, 1874	68	
Do.....	XLIII	.....	3709	.....do.....	72	
Do.....	XLIII	.....	3710	Jan. 31, 1868	69	
Do.....	XLIII	.....	3732	Mar. 2, 1861	66	

Reference index to the Revised Statutes and Statutes of the United States, etc.—Continued.

Act of Congress.	Title.	Chap.	Sec.	Approved.	P. L. & R.	Remarks.
					Sec.	
Revised Statutes.....	XLIII	.....	3734	July 15, 1870	12	Note.
Do.....	XLIII	.....	3735	Jan. 31, 1868	66	
Do.....	XLIII	.....	3737	July 17, 1862	65	
Do.....	XLIII	.....	3739	June 22, 1874	63	Note.
Do.....	XLIII	.....	3741	Feb. 27, 1877	63	
Do.....	XLV	.....	3786	July 20, 1868	83	
Do.....	XLV	.....	3789	Mar. 3, 1871	83	
Do.....	XLV	.....	3797	June 25, 1864	83	Ref.
Do.....	XLV	.....	3803	Mar. 9, 1868	520	
Do.....	XLV	.....	3804	do.....	520	
Do.....	XLV	.....	3806	do.....	520	
Do.....	XLV	.....	3828	July 15, 1870	84	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3829	June 8, 1872	228	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3830	July 12, 1876	234	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3831	June 8, 1872	237	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3832	do.....	212	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3833	do.....	178	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3833	do.....	1562	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3834	do.....	238	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3835	do.....	165	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3835	do.....	165	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3836	do.....	87	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3836	do.....	245	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3837	do.....	243	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3838	do.....	180	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3839	do.....	262	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3840	do.....	553	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3841	do.....	1322	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3842	do.....	372	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3843	do.....	392	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3844	do.....	393	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3845	do.....	406	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3846	do.....	355	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3847	Mar. 3, 1873	358	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3848	June 8, 1872	362	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3849	do.....	1325	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3850	do.....	1161	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3851	do.....	275	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3852	July 12, 1876	255	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3852	do.....	257	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3853	June 23, 1874	255	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3853	do.....	257	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3854	do.....	255	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3854	do.....	257	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3855	do.....	255	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3855	do.....	257	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3856	Feb. 18, 1875	255	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3856	do.....	257	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3857	June 8, 1872	378	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3858	do.....	224	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3859	July 12, 1876	308	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3860	do.....	286	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3860	do.....	317	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3860	do.....	321	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3860	do.....	324	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	1	3861	June 8, 1872	377	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3862	do.....	380	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3863	do.....	309	
Do.....	XLVI	1	3864	do.....	233	
Do.....	XLVI	2	3865	June 23, 1874	709	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	2	3866	June 8, 1872	726	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	2	3867	do.....	737	
Do.....	XLVI	2	3868	do.....	719	
Do.....	XLVI	2	3869	do.....	1603	
Do.....	XLVI	2	3870	do.....	735	
Do.....	XLVI	2	3871	do.....	230	
Do.....	XLVI	2	3872	Mar. 3, 1877	452	
Do.....	XLVI	2	3873	June 8, 1872	710	
Do.....	XLVI	2	3874	do.....	395	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3875	do.....	410	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3876	do.....	413	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3877	July 12, 1876	427	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3878	do.....	471	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3879	Mar. 3, 1875	487	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3880	June 8, 1872	81	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3881	do.....	489	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3882	do.....	614	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3883	do.....	464	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3884	do.....	451	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	3	3885	do.....	678	

Reference index to the Revised Statutes and Statutes of the United States, etc.—Continued.

Act of Congress.	Title.	Chap.	Sec.	Approved.	P. L. & R.	Remarks.
					Sec.	
Revised Statutes	XLVI	3	3886	July 12, 1876	462	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3887	June 8, 1872	484	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3888	.....do.....	1144	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3889	.....do.....	1488	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3890	.....do.....	1608	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3891	.....do.....	1605	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3892	.....do.....	1610	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3893	July 12, 1876	497	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3893	.....do.....	624	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	3	3893	.....do.....	658	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	3	3894	.....do.....	499	
Do.....	XLVI	3	3895	June 8, 1872	60	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3896	.....do.....	411	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3897	Mar. 3, 1877	471	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3898	June 8, 1872	412	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3898	.....do.....	421	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	4	3899	.....do.....	1579	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3900	.....do.....	616	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3901	.....do.....	348	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3902	.....do.....	422	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3903	Mar. 3, 1877	414	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3904	June 8, 1872	414	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3905	Mar. 3, 1877	448	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3906	June 8, 1872	451	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	4	3907	.....do.....	448	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3907	.....do.....	452	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	4	3908	.....do.....	448	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3910	.....do.....	471	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3911	.....do.....	480	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	4	3912	.....do.....	536	
Do.....	XLVI	4	3913	.....do.....	423	
Do.....	XLVI	5	3914	.....do.....	132	
Do.....	XLVI	5	3915	.....do.....	136	
Do.....	XLVI	5	3916	.....do.....	139	
Do.....	XLVI	5	3917	.....do.....	141	
Do.....	XLVI	5	3918	.....do.....	328	
Do.....	XLVI	5	3919	.....do.....	328	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	5	3920	.....do.....	329	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	5	3921	.....do.....	564	
Do.....	XLVI	5	3922	.....do.....	1581	
Do.....	XLVI	5	3922	.....do.....	1585	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	5	3923	.....do.....	1385	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	5	3923	.....do.....	1582	
Do.....	XLVI	5	3923	.....do.....	1584	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	5	3924	.....do.....	1585	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	5	3924	.....do.....	1583	
Do.....	XLVI	5	3925	.....do.....	1585	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	5	3925	.....do.....	1584	
Do.....	XLVI	6	3926	.....do.....	796	
Do.....	XLVI	6	3926	.....do.....	899	
Do.....	XLVI	6	3927	.....do.....	801	
Do.....	XLVI	6	3928	.....do.....	855	
Do.....	XLVI	6	3929	.....do.....	503	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	6	3929	.....do.....	503	
Do.....	XLVI	7	3930	.....do.....	659	
Do.....	XLVI	7	3931	.....do.....	660	
Do.....	XLVI	7	3932	.....do.....	836	
Do.....	XLVI	7	3933	.....do.....	662	
Do.....	XLVI	7	3934	.....do.....	661	
Do.....	XLVI	7	3935	.....do.....	668	
Do.....	XLVI	7	3936	.....do.....	46	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	7	3936	.....do.....	48	
Do.....	XLVI	7	3936	.....do.....	669	
Do.....	XLVI	7	3937	.....do.....	46	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	7	3937	.....do.....	420	
Do.....	XLVI	7	3937	.....do.....	569	
Do.....	XLVI	7	3938	.....do.....	46	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	7	3938	.....do.....	53	
Do.....	XLVI	7	3939	.....do.....	670	
Do.....	XLVI	7	3940	.....do.....	627	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3941	Mar. 3, 1877	1254	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	8	3942	June 8, 1872	1163	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3943	.....do.....	1242	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	8	3943	.....do.....	1243	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	8	3944	.....do.....	1264	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3945	Aug. 11, 1876	1258	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3946	.....do.....	1259	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3947	June 23, 1874	1626	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3948	June 8, 1872	1267	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3948	.....do.....	1323	

Reference index to the Revised Statutes and Statutes of the United States, etc.—Continued.

Act of Congress.	Title.	Chap.	Sec.	Approved.	P. L. & R.	Remarks.
					Sec.	
Revised Statutes.....	XLVI	8	3949	June 8, 1872	1268	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3950	.....do.....	1270	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3951	Aug. 11, 1876	1272	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3952	June 8, 1872	1272	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	8	3953	Aug. 11, 1876	1272	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	8	3954	.....do.....	1278	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3955	June 8, 1872	1278	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3956	.....do.....	1242	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	8	3956	.....do.....	1269	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3957	.....do.....	1255	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	8	3957	.....do.....	1275	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	8	3958	.....do.....	1275	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3959	.....do.....	1284	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3960	.....do.....	1275	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	8	3960	.....do.....	1287	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3961	.....do.....	1275	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	8	3961	.....do.....	1288	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3962	.....do.....	1332	
Do.....	XLVI	8	3963	.....do.....	1296	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3964	.....do.....	1153	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3965	.....do.....	1155	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3966	.....do.....	1156	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3967	.....do.....	1228	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3968	.....do.....	1237	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3969	.....do.....	1240	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3970	.....do.....	1241	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3970	.....do.....	1242	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	9	3971	.....do.....	1239	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3972	.....do.....	1153	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	9	3973	.....do.....	1154	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3974	.....do.....	1160	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3975	.....do.....	1157	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3977	.....do.....	1246	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3978	.....do.....	1248	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3979	.....do.....	1621	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3980	.....do.....	1145	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3981	.....do.....	1143	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3982	.....do.....	1136	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3983	.....do.....	1139	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3984	.....do.....	1140	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3985	.....do.....	1141	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3986	.....do.....	1147	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3987	.....do.....	1310	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3988	.....do.....	1146	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3989	.....do.....	1150	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3990	.....do.....	1151	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3991	.....do.....	1152	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3992	.....do.....	1137	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3993	.....do.....	1128	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3994	Feb. 18, 1875	1159	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3995	June 8, 1872	1622	
Do.....	XLVI	9	3996	.....do.....	1623	
Do.....	XLVI	10	3997	.....do.....	1162	
Do.....	XLVI	10	3999	.....do.....	1170	
Do.....	XLVI	10	4000	.....do.....	1182	
Do.....	XLVI	10	4001	.....do.....	1165	
Do.....	XLVI	10	4002	Mar. 3, 1873	1162	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	10	4002	.....do.....	1164	
Do.....	XLVI	10	4002	.....do.....	1178	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	10	4003	.....do.....	1178	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	10	4004	.....do.....	1176	
Do.....	XLVI	10	4005	.....do.....	1177	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	11	4006	June 8, 1872	1158	
Do.....	XLVI	11	4007	.....do.....	1302	
Do.....	XLVI	11	4008	.....do.....	1303	
Do.....	XLVI	11	4009	.....do.....	1306	
Do.....	XLVI	11	4010	.....do.....	1333	
Do.....	XLVI	11	4011	.....do.....	1205	
Do.....	XLVI	11	4012	.....do.....	1308	
Do.....	XLVI	11	4012	.....do.....	1625	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	11	4013	.....do.....	1625	
Do.....	XLVI	11	4014	.....do.....	545	
Do.....	XLVI	11	4015	.....do.....	537	
Do.....	XLVI	11	4016	.....do.....	1309	
Do.....	XLVI	12	4017	.....do.....	35	
Do.....	XLVI	12	4017	.....do.....	40	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	12	4017	.....do.....	1397	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	12	4018	.....do.....	42	
Do.....	XLVI	12	4019	.....do.....	41	
Do.....	XLVI	12	4020	.....do.....	25	Note.

Reference index to the Revised Statutes and Statutes of the United States, etc.—Continued.

Act of Congress.	Title.	Chap.	Sec.	Approved.	P. L. & R.	Remarks.
					Sec.	
Revised Statutes.....	XLVI	12	4020	June 8, 1872	1396	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	12	4021	.....do.....	1311	
Do.....	XLVI	12	4022	.....do.....	1313	
Do.....	XLVI	12	4023	.....do.....	1312	
Do.....	XLVI	12	4024	.....do.....	1402	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	12	4025	.....do.....	1402	
Do.....	XLVI	12	4026	.....do.....	1149	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4027	.....do.....	965	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4028	.....do.....	1058	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4029	.....do.....	978	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4030	.....do.....	1589	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4031	.....do.....	250	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4032	Mar. 3, 1875	981	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4033	June 8, 1872	983	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4034	.....do.....	997	
Do.....	XLVI	13	40-5	.....do.....	993	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4036	.....do.....	1035	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4037	Feb. 18, 1875	1007	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4038	June 8, 1872	992	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4038	.....do.....	1127	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	13	4039	.....do.....	1021	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4039	.....do.....	1127	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4040	.....do.....	1024	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4040	.....do.....	1036	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4041	.....do.....	499	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	13	4041	.....do.....	1010	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4042	.....do.....	1098	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4043	.....do.....	1099	
Do.....	XLVI	14	4044	.....do.....	1124	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4045	.....do.....	1094	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4045	.....do.....	1116	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4046	Mar. 3, 1873	1107	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4046	.....do.....	1111	Note.
Do.....	XLVI	13	4046	.....do.....	1571	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4047	June 8, 1872	967	
Do.....	XLVI	13	4048	.....do.....	77	Ref.
Do.....	XLVI	14	4049	.....do.....	167	
Do.....	XLVI	14	4050	.....do.....	114	
Do.....	XLVI	14	4051	.....do.....	273	
Do.....	XLVI	14	4052	.....do.....	346	
Do.....	XLVI	14	4053	.....do.....	1576	
Do.....	XLVI	14	4054	.....do.....	146	
Do.....	XLVI	14	4055	.....do.....	151	
Do.....	XLVI	14	4056	.....do.....	150	
Do.....	XLVI	14	4057	.....do.....	181	
Do.....	XLVI	14	4058	.....do.....	156	
Do.....	XLVI	14	4059	.....do.....	194	
Do.....	XLVI	14	4060	.....do.....	169	
Do.....	XLVI	14	4061	.....do.....	674	
Do.....	LXII	.....	4746	Mar. 3, 1873	281	Ref.
Do.....	LXII	.....	4747	.....do.....	642	Note.
Do.....	LX	3	.....	.....	518	Ref.
Do.....	LX	3	4961	July 8, 1870	518	
Do.....	LXIV	.....	5260	Mar. 3, 1873	1168	
Do.....	LXV	.....	5262	Feb. 20, 1877	227	Note.
Do.....	LXV	.....	5264	July 24, 1866	227	Note.
Do.....	LXV	.....	5265	.....do.....	227	Note.
Do.....	LXV	.....	5266	June 10, 1872	226	
Do.....	LXV	.....	5267	June 22, 1874	227	Note.
Do.....	LXV	.....	5268	July 24, 1866	227	
Do.....	LXV	.....	5269	Feb. 27, 1877	227	Note.
Do.....	LXX	4	5392	July 12, 1876	1259	Ref.
Do.....	LXX	5	5413	Feb. 27, 1877	142	Ref.
Do.....	LXX	5	5413	.....do.....	1591	Note.
Do.....	LXX	5	5418	Apr. 5, 1866	1590	Ref.
Do.....	LXX	5	5428	Mar. 2, 1863	155	Note.
Do.....	LXX	5	5428	.....do.....	280	Note.
Do.....	LXX	5	5440	Mar. 2, 1867	1594	
Do.....	LXX	5	5454	Feb. 5, 1867	155	Note.
Do.....	LXX	5	5453	.....do.....	1586	Note.
Do.....	LXX	5	5463	June 8, 1872	1588	
Do.....	LXX	5	5404	.....do.....	1586	
Do.....	LXX	5	5465	.....do.....	1587	
Do.....	LXX	5	5466	.....do.....	1611	
Do.....	LXX	5	5467	.....do.....	1604	
Do.....	LXX	5	5468	.....do.....	1606	
Do.....	LXX	5	5469	.....do.....	1609	
Do.....	LXX	5	5470	.....do.....	1613	
Do.....	LXX	5	5471	.....do.....	1607	
Do.....	LXX	5	5472	.....do.....	1614	

Reference index to the Revised Statutes and Statutes of the United States, etc.—Continued.

Act of Congress.	Title.	Chap.	Sec.	Approved.	P. L. & R.	Remarks.
					Sec.	
Revised Statutes.....	LXX	5	5473	June 8, 1872	1615	
Do.....	LXX	5	5474	.....do.....	1624	
Do.....	LXX	5	5475	.....do.....	1600	
Do.....	LXX	5	5476	.....do.....	1601	
Do.....	LXX	5	5477	.....do.....	1002	
Do.....	LXX	5	5478	.....do.....	1599	
Do.....	LXX	5	5479	.....do.....	1590	
Do.....	LXX	5	5480	.....do.....	46	Note.
Do.....	LXX	5	5480	.....do.....	502	Note.
Do.....	LXX	5	5480	.....do.....	1617	
Do.....	LXX	6	5483	Mar. 3, 1853	1572	
Do.....	LXX	6	5488	June 14, 1866	1577	Note.
Do.....	LXX	6	5490	Aug. 6, 1846	1574	
Do.....	LXX	6	5491	July 15, 1870	1573	
Do.....	LXX	6	5492	Mar. 3, 1857	1575	
Do.....	LXX	6	5497	June 14, 1866	1569	Note.
Do.....	LXX	6	5497	.....do.....	1577	
Do.....	LXX	6	5498	Feb. 26, 1853	1598	
Do.....	LXX	8	5524	June 8, 1872	1616	
Do.....	LXX	8	5525	July 2, 1836	1612	
Do.....	LXX III	.....	5579	Feb. 27, 1877	12	Note.
Do.....	LXX III	.....	5585	Aug. 10, 1846	12	

Act of Congress.	Chap.	Sec.	Supp. R. S.		[Stat. L.		P. L. & R.	Remarks.
			Vol.	Page.	Vol.	Page.	Sec.	
1 July, 1862.....	120	.....	.....	.....	12	493	1168	
2 July, 1862.....	130	5	.....	.....	12	503	515	
.....1862.....	130	5	.....	.....	12	503	516	
1 July, 1864.....	216	.....	.....	.....	13	356	1168	Note.
23 July, 1866.....	209	.....	.....	.....	14	208	515	Ref.
.....1866.....	209	.....	.....	.....	14	208	516	Ref.
31 Jan., 1868.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	346	66	Joint res.
5 Mar., 1874.....	46	.....	1	5	.....	.....	207	
.....1874.....	46	.....	1	5	.....	.....	208	
18 Mar., 1874.....	57	.....	1	5	.....	.....	242	
24 Mar., 1874.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	286	66	Joint res.
20 June, 1874.....	328	.....	.....	.....	18	96	92	Ref.
.....1874.....	328	3	1	18	.....	.....	154	
.....1874.....	328	5	1	18	.....	.....	110	
23 June, 1874.....	456	12	1	44	.....	.....	1258	
.....1874.....	456	12	1	45	.....	.....	1626	
.....1874.....	456	13	1	45	.....	.....	476	
3 Mar., 1875.....	128	1	1	70	.....	.....	1164	
.....1875.....	128	4	1	70	.....	.....	167	
.....1875.....	128	5	1	70	.....	.....	507	
.....1875.....	128	7	1	70	.....	.....	508	
.....1875.....	129	.....	.....	.....	18	367	104	Ref.
.....1875.....	129	3	1	72	.....	.....	145	Ref.
.....1875.....	130	3	1	72	.....	.....	97	Ref.
.....1875.....	144	.....	1	88	.....	.....	1568	
.....1875.....	144	2	1	89	.....	.....	1570	
.....1875.....	149	.....	1	90	.....	.....	176	
12 July, 1876.....	179	1	1	110	.....	.....	1164	
.....1876.....	179	4	1	110	.....	.....	91	
.....1876.....	179	5	1	110	.....	.....	254	
.....1876.....	179	6	1	110	.....	.....	234	
.....1876.....	179	13	1	110	.....	.....	1166	
.....1876.....	179	14	1	110	.....	.....	136	
.....1876.....	179	15	1	110	.....	.....	416	
11 Aug., 1876.....	260	.....	1	116	.....	.....	1259	
.....1876.....	260	.....	1	116	.....	.....	1272	
.....1876.....	260	.....	1	117	.....	.....	1273	
.....1876.....	260	.....	1	117	.....	.....	1276	
.....1876.....	260	.....	1	117	.....	.....	1291	
.....1876.....	260	.....	1	118	.....	.....	1627	
15 Aug., 1876.....	287	3	1	120	.....	.....	26	
3 Mar., 1877.....	103	2-4	1	135	.....	.....	67	
.....1877.....	103	5	1	135	.....	.....	512	
1 May, 1878.....	96	.....	.....	.....	20	420	1168	Note.
17 May, 1878.....	107	1	1	164	.....	.....	1254	Note.
.....1878.....	107	1	1	164	.....	.....	1255	Note.
.....1878.....	107	2	1	165	.....	.....	1297	
.....1878.....	107	3	1	165	.....	.....	1299	
.....1878.....	107	5	1	165	.....	.....	1242	
.....1878.....	107	5	1	165	.....	.....	1243	

Reference index to the Revised Statutes and Statutes of the United States, etc.—Continued.

Act of Congress.	Chap.	Sec.	Supp. R. S.		Stat. L.		P. L. & R.	Remarks.
			Vol.	Page.	Vol.	Page.	Sec.	
17 May, 1878	107	5	1	166			1269	Note.
1878	107	5	1	166			1304	
14 June, 1878	191	4	1	180			110	
17 June, 1878	259		1	186			34	Note.
1878	259		1	186			40	Note.
1878	259		1	186			163	
1878	259		1	187			329	
17 June, 1878	259		1	186			393	
1878	259		1	186			1396	Note.
1878	259		1	186			1578	
1878	259	1	1	187			1164	
19 June, 1878	329		1	201			104	Ref.
20 June, 1878	359		1	203			80	
1878	359		1	202			85	
3 Feb., 1879	42		1	213			1569	
1879	42		1	213			1577	Note.
1879	45		1	214			165	
3 Mar., 1879	180		1	245			90	
1879	180		1	245			140	
1879	180		1	245			145	
1879	180		1	245			1136	
1879	180		1	245			1415	
1879	180	3	1	246			1181	
1879	180	4	1	246			1177	
1879	180	6	1	246			1202	
1879	180	7	1	246			410	
1879	180	8	1	246			413	
1879	180	9	1	246			415	
1879	180	9	1	246			422	
1879	180	10	1	246			427	
1879	180	11	1	246			452	Note.
1879	180	12	1	246			465	
1879	180	14	1	246			428	
1879	180	15	1	247			431	
1879	180	16	1	247			457	
1879	180	17	1	247			471	
1879	180	17	1	247			546	
1879	180	18	1	247			473	
1879	180	19	1	247			472	
1879	180	21	1	248			481	
1879	180	21	1	248			624	
1879	180	21	1	248			658	
1879	180	24	1	249			489	
1879	180	25	1	249			452	
1879	180	26	1	249			134	
1879	180	26	1	249			412	Note.
1879	180	26	1	249			421	
1879	180	26	1	249			616	
1879	180	27	1	249			1580	
1879	180	28	1	249			1585	
1879	180	30	1	250			1278	
1879	180	31	1	250			261	
1879	180	32	1	250			138	
1879	180	32	1	250			139	
17 May, 1879	8		1	204			1594	
12 June, 1879	20		1	206			1291	
7 Apr., 1880	48	2	1	280			1288	
11 June, 1880	206		1	296			35	
1880	206		1	296			140	
1 Mar., 1881	96		1	319			38	
1881	96		1	319			1178	
1881	96		1	319			1254	
1881	96		1	319			1396	Note.
1881	96		1	319			1398	
3 Mar., 1881	130		1	320			75	
20 Dec., 1881	1				22	1	510	Ref.
4 May, 1882	116		1	339			1284	
1882	116		1	338			1298	
1882	116		1	339			1301	
31 July, 1882	361		1	362			1402	
2 Aug., 1882	373	4	1	363			727	
1882	373	4	1	363			728	
3 Aug., 1882	379	1	1	372			1275	Note.
1882	379	1	1	372			1286	
1882	379	2	1	372			1292	
5 Aug., 1882	389	4	1	374			25	
16 Jan., 1883	27	6	1	395			23	
1883	27	6	1	395			289	
1883	27	7	1	395			24	
1883	27	11	1	395			217	

Reference index to the Revised Statutes and Statutes of the United States, etc.—Continued.

Act of Congress.	Chap.	Sec.	Supp. R. S.		Stat. L.		P. L. & R.	Remarks.
			Vol.	Page.	Vol.	Page.	Sec.	
16 Jan., 1883.....	27	12	1	396	.....	.....	218	
..... 1883.....	27	13	1	396	.....	.....	219	
..... 1883.....	27	14	1	396	.....	.....	220	
..... 1883.....	27	15	1	396	.....	.....	221	
3 Mar., 1883.....	123	.....	1	406	.....	.....	286	Note.
..... 1883.....	123	2	1	405	.....	.....	66	
..... 1883.....	123	2	1	405	.....	.....	77	
3 Mar., 1883.....	142	.....	1	417	.....	.....	255	
..... 1883.....	142	.....	1	417	.....	.....	309	Note.
..... 1883.....	142	1	1	419	.....	.....	396	
..... 1883.....	142	2	1	419	.....	.....	257	
..... 1883.....	142	3	1	419	.....	.....	256	
..... 1883.....	142	3	1	419	.....	.....	259	
..... 1883.....	142	4	1	420	.....	.....	255	Ref.
..... 1883.....	142	4	1	419	.....	.....	256	
1 Mar., 1884.....	9	.....	1	423	.....	.....	1153	
..... 1884.....	9	.....	1	423	.....	.....	1155	Note.
18 Apr., 1884.....	26	.....	1	425	.....	.....	1595	
1 May, 1884.....	37	.....	1	427	.....	.....	105	
13 May, 1884.....	46	2	1	428	.....	.....	207	
9 June 1884.....	73	.....	1	438	.....	.....	455	
26 June, 1884.....	121	23	1	444	.....	.....	1309	Note.
27 June, 1884.....	126	.....	1	446	.....	.....	743	
..... 1884.....	126	.....	1	446	.....	.....	745	
5 July, 1884.....	234	.....	1	467	.....	.....	40	Note.
..... 1884.....	234	.....	1	467	.....	.....	383	
..... 1884.....	234	3	1	467	.....	.....	512	
..... 1884.....	234	3	1	468	.....	.....	615	
..... 1884.....	234	3	1	468	.....	.....	801	
..... 1884.....	234	.....	1	467	.....	.....	1183	
7 July, 1884.....	334	.....	1	470	.....	.....	110	
3 Mar., 1885.....	342	.....	1	483	.....	.....	286	Note.
..... 1885.....	342	.....	1	483	.....	.....	298	
..... 1885.....	342	.....	1	483	.....	.....	319	
..... 1885.....	342	.....	1	483	.....	.....	414	
..... 1885.....	342	.....	1	483	.....	.....	448	
..... 1885.....	342	.....	1	483	.....	.....	452	Note.
..... 1885.....	342	.....	1	483	.....	.....	1244	
..... 1885.....	342	1	.....	.....	23	387	1302	
..... 1885.....	342	1	.....	.....	23	387	1307	Ref.
..... 1885.....	342	3	1	484	.....	.....	135	
..... 1885.....	342	3	1	484	.....	.....	762	Note.
..... 1885.....	342	4	1	484	.....	.....	768	Note.
..... 1885.....	342	5	1	484	.....	.....	765	Note.
..... 1885.....	342	5	1	484	.....	.....	784	Note.
..... 1885.....	342	5	1	484	.....	.....	790	
..... 1885.....	342	6	1	484	.....	.....	765	Note.
..... 1885.....	342	6	1	484	.....	.....	768	Note.
..... 1885.....	342	6	1	484	.....	.....	776	Note.
..... 1885.....	342	6	1	484	.....	.....	782	Note.
..... 1885.....	342	6	1	484	.....	.....	784	Note.
..... 1885.....	342	6	1	484	.....	.....	789	
28 June, 1886.....	561	.....	.....	.....	24	819	510	Ref.
29 June, 1886.....	569	.....	1	499	.....	.....	286	Note.
2 July, 1886.....	611	.....	1	500	.....	.....	512	
4 Aug., 1886.....	901	1	1	511	.....	.....	135	
..... 1886.....	901	1	1	511	.....	.....	762	
..... 1886.....	901	1	1	512	.....	.....	765	
..... 1886.....	901	1	1	512	.....	.....	766	
..... 1886.....	901	1	1	512	.....	.....	784	
..... 1886.....	901	2	1	512	.....	.....	768	
..... 1886.....	901	2	1	512	.....	.....	776	Note
..... 1886.....	901	3	1	512	.....	.....	164	
..... 1886.....	901	3	1	512	.....	.....	1578	
3 Jan., 1887.....	14	1	1	518	.....	.....	709	
..... 1887.....	14	2	1	519	.....	.....	726	
..... 1887.....	14	3	1	519	.....	.....	726	
2 Mar., 1887.....	314	4	1	551	.....	.....	516	
3 Mar., 1887.....	346	.....	1	557	.....	.....	1219	
..... 1887.....	359	3	1	560	.....	.....	159	
..... 1887.....	388	.....	1	567	.....	.....	719	
20 Jan., 1888.....	2	1	1	577	.....	.....	462	
..... 1888.....	2	1	1	577	.....	.....	478	
..... 1888.....	2	1	1	578	.....	.....	484	
..... 1888.....	2	1	1	578	.....	.....	491	
..... 1888.....	2	2	1	578	.....	.....	483	
15 Feb., 1888.....	10	2	1	579	.....	.....	1614	Note.
29 Feb., 1888.....	18	.....	1	581	.....	.....	1396	Note.
9 May, 1888.....	231	.....	1	585	.....	.....	204	
24 May, 1888.....	308	.....	1	587	.....	.....	746	

Reference index to the Revised Statutes and Statutes of the United States, etc.—Continued.

Act of Congress.	Chap.	Sec.	Supp. R. S.		Stat. L.		P. L. & R.	Remarks.
			Vol.	Page.	Vol.	Page.	Sec.	
18 June, 1888	394	1	1	593			1593	
1888	394	2	1	593			1588	
24 July, 1888	702	1	1	600			317	Note.
1888	702				25	347	482	
8 Aug., 1888	787	2	1	605			180	
13 Aug., 1888	866	1	1	611			178	Ref.
1888	866	1	1	611			1562	Ref.
26 Sept., 1888	1039	2	1	621			497	
1888	1039	3	1	621			498	
16 Jan., 1889	50	1	1	638			772	
30 Jan., 1889	100	1	1	638			1038	
16 Feb., 1889	171	1	1	644			75	
2 Mar., 1889	374	1	1	682			66	
1889	374	1	1	680			287	
1889	374	1	1	682			288	
1889	374	1	1	682			291	
1889	393	1	1	694			46	Note.
1889	393	1	1	694			502	Note.
1889	393	1	1	694			1617	
1889	393	2	1	694			504	Note.
1889	393	2	1	694			1617	
1889	393	3	1	695			504	
1889	393	4	1	695			502	
1889	393	5	1	695			504	
16 Apr., 1890	85	1	1	715			1396	Note.
1890	85	1	1	715			1398	
11 July, 1890	667	2	1	773			93	
29 Aug., 1890	820	1	1	791			209	
1890	820	1	1	791			210	
30 Aug., 1890	837	4	1	794			98	Ref.
1890	841	3	1	799			515	
19 Sept., 1890	908	1	1	803			499	
1890	908	2	1	804			503	
1890	908	3	1	804			1010	
30 Sept., 1890	1123	1	1	810			1272	Note.
1890	1126	1	1	811			167	Ref.
1 Oct., 1890	1260	1	1	878			300	
1890	1260	1	1	878			1395	
3 Mar., 1891	519	1	1	905			1305	Note.
1891	519	1	1	905			1307	
1891	541	1	1	927			3	
1891	541	1	1	926			22	Ref.
1891	547	1	1	932			149	
1891	547	1	1	932			34	Note.
1891	565	1	1	951			518	Ref.
5 July, 1892	147				27	82	226	
13 July, 1892	165	5	2	34			1203	
26 July, 1892	249		2	47			1255	
1892	249		2	47			1275	Note
1892	249	1	2	48			1293	
23 Jan., 1893	41		2	76			720	
21 Dec., 1893	6		2	165			67	
22 Jan., 1894	17		2	166			119	
27 Jan., 1894	21	1	2	166			1037	
1894	21	2	2	166			981	
1894	21	3	2	167			260	
1894	21	3	2	167			286	
1894	21	3	2	167			967	
1894	21	3	2	167			1038	
1894	21	3	2	167			1043	Note.
1894	21	4	2	168			1035	
1894	21	4	2	167			1132	
1894	21	6	2	168			1127	
1894	21	7	2	168			983	
1894	21	8	2	168			1124	
1894	21	9	2	168			997	
1894	21	10	2	168			965	Note.
1894	21	11	2	169			1024	
1894	21	11	2	169			1035	Note.
1894	21	11	2	169			1036	
1894	22		2	169			72	
21 April, 1894	61		2	180			72	
16 July, 1894	137		2	196			429	
1894	137	2	2	196			82	
1894	137	4	2	196			1035	
1894	137	4	2	196			1133	
31 July, 1894	174	2	2	212			213	
1894	174	3	2	212			5	
1894	174	7	2	214			160	
1894	174	8	2	215			171	

Reference index to the Revised Statutes and Statutes of the United States, etc.—Continued.

Act of Congress.	Chap.	Sec.	Supp. R. S.		Stat. L.		P. L. & R.	Remarks.
			Vol.	Page.	Vol.	Page.	Sec.	
31 July, 1894.....	174	8	2	215	.....	.....	172	
1894.....	174	12	2	217	.....	.....	98	Ref.
13 Aug., 1894.....	282	.....	2	237	.....	.....	88	Ref.
18 Aug., 1894.....	301	.....	2	257	.....	.....	512	
23 Aug., 1894.....	319	.....	2	264	.....	.....	281	
12 Jan., 1895.....	23	73	2	356	.....	.....	83	
1895.....	23	73	2	356	.....	.....	89	Ref.
12 Jan., 1895.....	23	85	2	362	.....	.....	506	
1895.....	23	96	2	364	.....	.....	79	
1895.....	23	96	2	364	.....	.....	136	
28 Feb., 1895.....	140	.....	2	392	.....	.....	1416	
2 Mar., 1895.....	177	.....	2	417	.....	.....	66	
1895.....	177	5	2	418	.....	.....	87	
1895.....	177	5	2	419	.....	.....	245	
1895.....	191	1	2	435	.....	.....	1010	Note.
1895.....	191	1	2	435	.....	.....	1620	
1895.....	191	2	2	435	.....	.....	497	Note.
1895.....	191	2	2	435	.....	.....	499	Note.
1895.....	191	2	2	435	.....	.....	503	Note.
1895.....	191	2	2	435	.....	.....	1010	Note.
1895.....	191	3	2	435	.....	.....	499	Note.
1895.....	191	4	2	436	.....	.....	503	
26 Feb., 1896.....	33	.....	2	448	.....	.....	173	Ref.
25 Apr., 1896.....	140	.....	2	459	.....	.....	1161½	
28 May, 1896.....	252	.....	2	477	.....	.....	66	
1896.....	252	.....	2	478	.....	.....	119	Ref.
1896.....	252	3	2	477	.....	.....	28	
8 June, 1896.....	370	.....	2	507	.....	.....	480	
1896.....	370	.....	2	507	.....	.....	487	
1896.....	370	.....	2	507	.....	.....	658	Note.
9 June, 1896.....	386	.....	2	510	.....	.....	145	
1896.....	386	.....	2	510	.....	.....	230	
1896.....	386	.....	2	509	.....	.....	233	
1896.....	386	.....	2	510	.....	.....	1204	
11 June, 1896.....	424	.....	2	328	.....	.....	204	
8 Feb., 1897.....	172	.....	2	547	.....	.....	1618	
20 Feb., 1897.....	268	.....	2	558	.....	.....	512	
27 Feb., 1897.....	340	.....	2	564	.....	.....	899	
3 Mar., 1897.....	385	.....	2	598	.....	.....	35	Note.
1897.....	385	.....	2	598	.....	.....	89	
1897.....	385	.....	2	598	.....	.....	145	
1897.....	385	.....	2	599	.....	.....	1035	
1897.....	385	.....	2	599	.....	.....	1133	
1897.....	385	.....	2	598	.....	.....	1396	Note.
1897.....	385	.....	2	598	.....	.....	1397	Note.
24 July, 1897.....	11	.....	2	642	.....	.....	546	Note.
1897.....	11	par. 403	2	687	.....	.....	699	Ref.
1897.....	11	16	2	687	.....	.....	700	Ref.
1897.....	11	17	2	708	.....	.....	1619	
15 Mar., 1898.....	68	.....	2	735	.....	.....	104	
1898.....	68	7	2	736	.....	.....	31	
1898.....	68	7	2	737	.....	.....	32	
1898.....	68	7	2	737	.....	.....	95	
1898.....	68	9	2	738	.....	.....	29	
19 May, 1898.....	347	.....	2	766	.....	.....	417	
13 June, 1898.....	446	.....	2	778	30	444	40	Note.
1898.....	446	.....	2	778	.....	.....	257	Note.
1898.....	446	.....	2	778	.....	.....	301	Note.
1898.....	446	.....	2	778	.....	.....	451	
1898.....	446	.....	2	778	.....	.....	509	
1898.....	446	.....	2	778	.....	.....	1562	
1898.....	446	2	2	778	.....	.....	1267	
1898.....	446	2	2	778	.....	.....	1323	
1898.....	446	3	2	779	.....	.....	312	
1898.....	446	4	2	779	.....	.....	485	
7 July, 1898.....	571	.....	2	882	.....	.....	32"	
1898.....	578	.....	2	886	.....	.....	281	Ref.
24 Feb., 1899.....	187	.....	2	946	.....	.....	8	
1899.....	187	4	2	946	.....	.....	27	
1899.....	187	4	2	946	.....	.....	32	
1 Mar., 1899.....	327	.....	2	958	30	965	34	Note.
1899.....	327	.....	2	958	.....	.....	40	Note.
1899.....	327	.....	2	958	.....	.....	785	Note.
1899.....	327	3	2	958	.....	.....	1167	
1899.....	327	5	2	959	.....	.....	979	
1899.....	327	5	2	959	.....	.....	981	
1899.....	327	5	2	959	.....	.....	997	Note.
2 Mar., 1899.....	362	.....	2	965	.....	.....	475	
3 Mar., 1899.....	419	27	2	986	.....	.....	513	
1899.....	419	27	2	986	.....	.....	801	

Reference index to the Revised Statutes and Statutes of the United States, etc.—Continued.

Act of Congress.	Chap.	Sec.	Supp. R. S.		Stat. L.		P. L. & R.	Remarks.
			Vol.	Page.	Vol.	Page.	Sec.	
17 Apr., 1900.....	192				31	134	107	Note.
2 June, 1900.....	613				31	260	34	Note.
1900.....	613				31	260	40	Note.
1900.....	613				31	260	765	
1900.....	613				31	260	785	Note.
1900.....	613				31	259	1397	Note.
6 June, 1900.....	801				31	660	430	
2 Mar., 1901.....	809	3			31	951	225	
3 Mar., 1901.....	830				31	1003	6	Ref.
1901.....	830				31	1004	10	Note.
1901.....	830				31	1004	19	
1901.....	830				31	1003	97	Ref.
1901.....	830				31	1009	145	
1901.....	830	4			31	1009	107	
1901.....	851				31	1103	6	Ref.
1901.....	851				31	1103	9	Note.
1901.....	851				31	1107	34	
1901.....	851				31	1106	37	Note.
1901.....	851				31	1107	40	
1901.....	851				31	1106	143	Note.
1901.....	851				31	1102	287	Note.
1901.....	851				31	1099	288	Note.
1901.....	851				31	1102	301	Note.
1901.....	851				31	1102	317	
1901.....	851				31	1102	319	Note.
1901.....	851				31	1103	321	
1901.....	851				31	1107	444	
1901.....	851				31	1106	785	Note.
1901.....	851				31	1105	1205	Ref.
1901.....	851				31	1106	1318	
1901.....	851				31	1104	1396	
1901.....	851				31	1105	1397	
1901.....	851				31	1105	1398	
1901.....	851				31	1105	1399	
1901.....	851				31	1105	1402	Note.
1901.....	851				31	1105	1418	
1901.....	851	2			31	1107	153	

INDEX.

A.

	Page.
Ability, pecuniary, of bidder for carrying mail-----	64
Abolition of free-delivery service-----	100
Abortion—	
information for procuring-----	104
matter relative to procuring, nonmailable, penalty-----	69, 70
Absence—	
account of sickness-----	128
annual leave, exclusive of Sundays and holidays-----	131
bureau officer, duties performed by whom-----	13
clerk on other than annual leave, substitute-----	141
on leave-----	128
clerks in post-offices-----	113
employees in mail-bag repair shops-----	113
postmaster, performance of his duties-----	49
Postmaster-General, duties performed by whom-----	13
postal clerks with pay-----	136
rural carriers on leave-----	146
without pay-----	128
Abuse of Post-Office Establishment in schemes to defraud-----	60, 110
Acceptance—	
by banks of unlawful deposits, penalty-----	11
of new sureties on mail contracts-----	38
of postmasters' bonds by First Assistant Postmaster-General-----	77
of postmasters' new bonds, old sureties released-----	25
written, filed by telegraph companies-----	12
Accepting fee for procuring contract or office, penalty for Member of Congress or officer-----	9
Accessory—	
assaulting letter carrier-----	28
embezzlement of United States property, penalty-----	67
injuring letter boxes-----	28
robbing the mail, penalty-----	60
stealing mail matter-----	4
Accident preventing exhibition of vouchers for credits in suits-----	4
Accommodation of postal clerks, ocean mail service-----	115
Accountability of postmasters for stamps and stamped envelopes-----	33
Accounting—	
for postage due-----	85
for second-class postage-----	129
officers, penalty for failure to deposit public moneys-----	8
officers to report balance due from officers in arrears-----	4
Accounts—	
Auditor to show itemized expenditures-----	67
expenses of letter carriers, etc., separate-----	29
failure to render, penalty-----	16
manner and form prescribed by Postmaster-General-----	76
money-order, kept separately and to show what-----	17
neglect of postmasters to render, penalty-----	26, 27
oaths in settlement-----	17
of inspectors, etc., include sums advanced-----	53
of late postmaster adjusted or settled, no demand to be made-----	14
of money-order business-----	51, 119

	Page.
Accounts—Continued.	
of "money-order funds" kept by United States assistant treasurer.....	51
of postal funds kept by depositaries.....	6
of postal service, etc., auditing.....	121
of postal service, to show what.....	51, 52
of postmasters, delinquencies reported.....	66
preserved two years.....	54
of proceeds of dead letters.....	37
of United States settled by Treasury Department.....	3
orders affecting, certified to Auditor.....	20
postal, audited and preserved.....	65
postmasters, deficiencies reported.....	81
quarterly return.....	26
sworn statement required.....	79
sworn to.....	26
to attach advices of repaid money orders.....	119
prompt rendition enforced by Postmaster-General.....	76
sales of useless department property.....	19
settled by Auditor, appeal to Comptroller.....	16
settlement in Court of Claims.....	100
unsettled, action in Court of Claims.....	101
Accusation, United States interested, penalty for officer receiving compensation for services.....	10
Acknowledgments, before whom taken.....	7
Acting as agent in claims against United States, penalty for officer.....	7
Acting Auditor during absence of Auditor.....	115
Acting officers—	
named by President, when.....	13
of Bureaus.....	13
of Department.....	13
receive no extra compensation.....	5
Acting Postmaster-General, who may be.....	150
Acting postmasters, compensation.....	86
Action—	
of Congress on report of useless papers.....	106
debt on bidder's bond—	
failure to execute contract for carrying mail.....	64
failure to perform service, carrying mail.....	64
Post-Office Department, foreign dead mail matter.....	20
Action on bond, failure of postmaster to render accounts.....	27
Action on the case, recovery of additional cost on failure of bidder or contractor for carrying mail.....	72
Action, right of, for breach of contract, reserved to United States.....	9
Additional allowance for extra services not performed, recovery.....	54
Additional carriers employed in expediting the mails, compensation.....	38
Additional charge for advertising nondelivered letters.....	36
Additional compensation—	
as acting officer forbidden.....	5
for expediting the mail.....	38
Additional expenditures included in annual estimates to be explained.....	8
Additional mail routes established, report to Congress.....	21
Additional pay—	
for extended service on mail routes.....	89
for railway post-office lines.....	149
to officers forbidden.....	5
to railroads.....	61
Additional postage on matter with unlawful inclosures.....	102
Additional service—	
carrying the mail, compensation.....	38
on mail routes, compensation.....	89
Additional stock employed in expediting the mail, compensation.....	38
Additions—	
on second-class matter, what permissible.....	101
on third-class matter.....	102
permissible to fourth-class matter.....	102
Address, false, etc., use in unlawful business.....	110

	Page.
Address labels on postal cards.....	71
Address on mail matter, what included.....	102
Addressee give receipt for registered matter.....	35
Addressees of fictitious matter, identification.....	110
Addresses on postal cards.....	71
Adjoining countries, transportation of mail through United States.....	45
Adjusted account of late postmaster, no demand to be made.....	14
Adjustment—	
compensation, fourth-class postmasters.....	94
on railroad routes.....	148
to railroads.....	61
postmasters' accounts, deficiency, etc.....	81
postmasters' salaries.....	94
Administering oaths, clerks as notary public, no fee.....	111
Administration of oaths in settlement of accounts, by whom.....	17
Admissible as evidence—	
certified money-order transcripts.....	14
certified quarterly returns of postmasters.....	14
Adoption of uniform canceling ink.....	80
Advance of public money forbidden.....	3
Advancement—	
fourth-class offices to higher class.....	95
of clerks and carriers.....	147
of post-office clerks.....	109
Advances—	
to disbursing officers.....	3
inspectors, etc.....	53
Advertised letters, additional charge.....	36
Advertised matter, posting list.....	36
Advertisements—	
evidence of agency in lottery, etc., schemes.....	112
for carrying mail, unnecessary, when.....	74
for mail contracts.....	88
for proposals.....	63, 120
in likeness of obligations of United States.....	12
in periodicals.....	83
of fraudulent schemes, etc.....	109
of mail route, amount of bond designated.....	64
of lottery, not to be circulated by interstate commerce, etc.....	124
unmailable.....	111
of obscene matter, etc., nonmailable, penalty.....	69, 70, 104
on obligations of United States, penalty for placing.....	12
proposals for money-order blanks, etc.....	92
proposals, ocean mail service.....	113
return request letters.....	37
transportation of the mails.....	116
Advertising—	
authority.....	15
by Purchasing Agent for bids.....	140
foreign nondelivered letters.....	35
for proposals, carrying mail between United States and foreign countries.....	45
carrying mail, domestic water routes.....	79
included in annual estimates.....	23
matter not permissible in periodicals of State departments of agriculture.....	132
on envelopes.....	123
nondelivered letters, compensation.....	36
in newspapers, etc.....	35
postal accounts to show expenditures.....	52
rates.....	80
unlawful, that vehicle is used for carrying mail.....	41
unnecessary, contracts with railroads for carrying mail.....	37
Advises—	
of money orders issued.....	50
of repaid money orders, attached to accounts.....	119
unpaid money orders, disposition.....	118

	Page.
Affidavits—	
accompany postmasters' accounts.....	79
altering, forging, etc., to defraud United States, penalty.....	59
of disallowed claims, grounds for continuance in postal suits.....	4
with application for warrant of attachment.....	11
Affixing addresses to postal cards.....	71
Agencies in foreign countries, report to Congress.....	22
Agency—	
evidence, lottery schemes, etc.....	113
for blanks at Washington, D. C., established.....	20
in China or Japan, expenses.....	48
in fraudulent schemes, etc., how ascertained.....	113
in lottery schemes: evidence, public advertisement.....	112
Agents—	
confidential, names not required in estimates.....	23
employees not to act for contractors.....	21
for lotteries, postmasters not to be.....	27
in foreign ports.....	47
in prosecution of claims against United States, penalty for officers acting as.....	7
(mail) on ocean steamers, compensation.....	48
of contractors, delinquencies reported by postmasters.....	27
of Department, debts due from defaulting, attachment issued, when... seize or detain letters, etc., illegally carried.....	10
special, give bonds, when.....	8
Agreeing to give fee to officer procuring contract or office, penalty.....	9
Agreeing to receive compensation for services in United States matters, officer.....	10
Agricultural bulletins, etc., mailed free.....	100
Agricultural college reports transmitted free.....	9
Agricultural reports mailed free, by whom.....	67
Agriculture, periodicals issued by State departments.....	132
Aiding—	
in altering, forging, etc., money order, penalty.....	55
in assaulting postal clerk.....	138
in circulating obscene matter, penalty for officer.....	128
in injuring mail in letter boxes, etc., penalty.....	55
in prosecution of claims against United States, penalty for officers....	7
in stealing mail key, penalty.....	58
to procure contract, penalty for officer receiving fee for.....	9
Allowance of claims for credit in suits for delinquency.....	4
Allowance of postmasters' claims for losses.....	102
Allowances—	
clerical assistance, unusual business in post-office.....	28
clerk-hire at distributing offices.....	68, 139
at money-order offices.....	118
include all clerical services.....	118
limitation, third-class post-offices.....	127
miscellaneous items expended without specific authority, when.....	134
per diem inspectors in the field.....	147
post-office inspectors.....	146
rent, light, and fuel at third-class post-offices.....	149
Allotments of appropriations to prevent deficiencies.....	142
Altering bonds, etc., to defraud United States, penalty.....	59
Alteration—	
of distribution of clerks.....	7
of money-orders.....	103
Amount—	
due claimant, withheld, in settlement of claims, etc., against United States.....	68
due on accounts, how determined.....	101
of fines of contractors for foreign mails.....	45
of funds, stamps, etc., lost by burglary, etc., ascertained.....	103
of indemnity paid for loss of registered mail.....	138
of money-orders, limited.....	66
of outstanding appropriations, designated in annual estimates.....	8
required for new items in estimates of expenditures.....	8

	Page.
Annual compensation, not to receive pay in addition to.....	7
Annual estimates—	
furnished to Secretary of Treasury.....	22, 133
new items to be explained.....	8
printing and binding.....	16
report of employees' efficiency.....	111
reported to Congress by Secretary of Treasury.....	22
to Congress, expenses money-order service.....	126
Annual leave of absence.....	128
exclusive of Sundays and holidays.....	131, 148
Annual leave of rural carriers.....	146, 147
Annual reports—	
of Auditor financial condition of Post-Office Department.....	71
printing.....	123
to Congress, claim for losses, action thereon.....	103
financial condition Post-Office Department.....	71
Postmaster-General.....	21
revenues and expenditures.....	146
when submitted.....	62
Annual vacation of railway postal clerks with pay.....	136
Annulment—	
of contract, cause by assignment or transfer.....	9
of contracts unlawfully procured.....	9
of mail contracts illegally sublet.....	78
of second-class privileges.....	137
Appeal—	
to Comptroller, settlement of accounts by Auditor.....	16
to Supreme Court, action for settlement of accounts.....	101
Appliance for canceling stamps.....	80
Applicant for warrant of attachment, to make affidavit.....	11
Applications—	
for money orders, blank forms supplied.....	119
contain what.....	49
for new money order for invalid.....	65
for subpoena, claims against United States.....	16
for warrant of attachment, to whom and by whom made.....	11
of payments after new bond of postmaster.....	25
Appointment Clerk, Post-Office Department.....	133, 143
Appointment Division, Chief.....	134
Appointments—	
Assistant Postmasters-General.....	76
city carriers.....	89
examinations for.....	91
postal clerks.....	48
Postmaster-General.....	18
postmasters.....	68, 71
postmasters' successors.....	25
post-office inspectors in charge.....	137
soldiers and sailors.....	11
substitute letter carriers.....	89
Apportionment of appropriations.....	142
Appropriating post-office property to improper use, penalty.....	58
Appropriations—	
accounts of Auditor to show expenditures under each item.....	67
additional pay to officers.....	5
adequate for purchase or contract.....	8
applied to objects for which made.....	12
Auditor's report of postmasters' disbursements.....	17
claims for losses exceeding \$2,000.....	103
contingent expenses.....	142
contingent fund not expended for clerical services.....	15
departmental employees, restrictions.....	90
exhausted, claims under.....	79
expended only for objects specified.....	142
expenditures not to exceed.....	15
expenses of postal service, estimates.....	23
foreign and inland postal service.....	97

	Page.
Appropriations—Continued.	
increase asked in annual estimates, to be explained	8
inland mail transportation, expenses of weighing mails paid from	66
new items, asked for in annual estimates, to be explained	8
not available for compensation to incapacitated persons	133, 136
outstanding, amount designated in annual estimates	8
payments by warrant, charged	24
payments of invalid money orders	119
payment of losses exceeding \$10,000, special	126
payment of temporary clerks and carriers	149
payments to telegraph companies, restrictions	60
permanent or indefinite	15
postal revenues for postal expenses	53
postmasters' payments charged	20
post-office inspectors	87
post-route maps	133
printing and binding	16
restrictions on illustrations	141
printing not to be in excess	123
salaries, railway mail officials	145
transportation of mail, mail agents in foreign ports paid	47
pay of mail agents on ocean steamers	48
postal clerks paid	48
unexpended balances, carried to surplus fund	63
how applied	15
Approval—	
of bidder's bond, carrying mail, penalty for unlawful	64
of bonds of disbursing officers	8
of new bonds	142
of postmasters' bonds by First Assistant Postmaster-General	77
of roster of clerks in post-offices	109
Arrest, United States interested, penalty for officer receiving compensation for services in	10
Arrival—	
and departure of mails, destruction of registers	130
at port, treatment of ship letters	41
of foreign vessels carrying mail	47
of mails, registers	26
Articles—	
excluded from the mails	69
purchased from contingent fund	6
stolen from the mails, penalty for receiving	57
Artifice to defraud, penalty	59, 109
Aspinwall, mail agency	47
Assaulting—	
letter carrier, penalty	28
mail carrier, penalty	58
postal clerk on duty, penalty	138
Assignment—	
of clerks	125
of contract, or interest therein, forbidden	9
of mail contract by contractor, prohibited	39
of postal clerks, preference	145
Assistant Attorney-General—	
appointment	18
office	133
salary	18
Assistant Attorneys, Post-Office Department	133, 143
Assistant carpenter, Post-Office Department, salary	18
Assistant cashiers, salaries at first-class post-offices	106
Assistant district attorney make application for warrant of attachment	11
Assistant division superintendents, railway mail service	135
Assistant engineer, Post-Office Department, salary	18
Assistant general superintendent, railway mail service	135

	Page.
Assistant Postmasters-General—	
appointment	76
as special agents	47
compensation	76
removal	76
term of office	76
Assistant postmasters—	
false returns, special-delivery business	99
issuing money orders unlawfully	104
not to be contractor, etc.	27
salaries at first-class post-offices	106
Assistant Superintendent—	
Division of City Delivery	143
Foreign Mails	143
Railway Adjustment and Law Clerk	143
Salaries and Allowances	143
Assistant superintendents—	
money-order divisions, salaries at first-class post-offices	108
of delivery, salaries at first-class post-offices	107
of free delivery, per diem	131
of mails, salaries at first-class post-offices	107
of registry, salaries at first-class post-offices	107
railway mail service, appointment, etc.	128, 135
per diem	139
registry system, expenses	135
salary and allowance division, expenses	135
Assistant topographer	144
Assistant treasurer, postal revenues deposited by postmasters	27
Assisting—	
in assault on postal clerk	138
in forging mail key, etc., penalty	59
in injuring mail in letter boxes, penalty	55
in prosecution of claims against United States, penalty for officer	7
in stealing mail key, penalty	58
Assorters, etc.—	
salaries at first-class post-offices	108
at second-class post-offices	109
Assumed names, etc., unlawful business	110
Assuming fictitious names, unlawful business	110
Attachment—	
application for warrant of, to whom and by whom made	11
warrant of, in postal suits, when issued	10
Attempt—	
to break into post-office, penalty	59
to defraud the Government, oaths to witnesses in investigations	14
to pass forged money order, penalty	55
Attempting to rob the mail, penalty	58
Attorney in prosecution of claims against United States, penalty for officer acting as	7
Auditing postal accounts	65, 121
Auditor—	
accounts to show expenditures of Post-Office Department	67
adjust postmasters' accounts, special delivery business	99
administer oaths to witnesses	17
certified quarterly statement of postmasters' payments	20
Chicago, Ill., post-office	134
claim for credit disallowed by, in suits against delinquent officers	4
close postal account quarterly	65
compromise judgments due Post-Office Department	17
compromises, etc.	21
countersign warrants in payment of invalid money orders	119
countersign, etc., warrants of Postmaster-General	66
disallowance of claim by, grounds for continuance in postal suits, when	4

	Page.
Auditor—Continued.	
duplicate mail contract delivered.....	20
enforce payment of debts due Post-Office Department.....	16
examine accounts of postal service.....	121
for Post-Office Department, appointed by President.....	65
duties.....	65, 66
keep money-order accounts separately.....	17
money-order transcript as evidence when certified by.....	14
New York, N. Y., post-office, salary.....	108
notified, appointment and removal of postmasters.....	71
change of postmaster.....	25
changes in postmasters' salaries.....	95
mail contracts sublet.....	78
post-offices discontinued.....	28
post-offices established.....	24
notify Postmaster-General of postmasters' deficiencies.....	81
orders affecting postal accounts, certified.....	20
original receipt for deposit of postal revenues.....	117
pay subcontractor, carrying mail.....	78
payments to be on certificate.....	53
postmasters' quarterly returns as evidence when certified by.....	14
preserve accounts and vouchers.....	65
quarterly report of postmasters' disbursements.....	17
register and countersign warrant for payment of postal expenses.....	24
reports of financial condition of Post-Office Department.....	71
reports to Postmaster-General.....	66
returns of marshal to.....	4
settle postal accounts.....	65
statements from postmasters of money orders unpaid one year.....	118
superintend collections, debts due Post-Office Department.....	16
title changed.....	121
vouchers submitted by postmasters.....	28
Auditor's certificates of balances, revised by Comptroller.....	122
Auditors, deputy, duties.....	115
Authority—	
for contract or purchase.....	8
for delivery of mail locks and keys.....	59
for employment, mail messenger service.....	100
for establishment, ocean mail service.....	113
for estimates for compensation.....	8
for extending contracts for carrying mail.....	72
for extra compensation as acting officer.....	5
for extra compensation to officers.....	5
for illustrations in documents.....	141
for making searches.....	48
for opening letters.....	110
for paying expenses of weighing mails.....	66
for publishing advertisements, proposals, etc.....	15
for sale of useless papers.....	106
Authority of postmasters to pay miscellaneous items.....	134
Authority, special, for printing postage stamps, etc.....	55
Authority—	
to administer oaths in investigations.....	14
to administer oaths of office.....	8
to deliver postage stamps, etc.....	55
to search for mailable matter on foreign vessels.....	46
Authorization for public printing.....	123
Authorization of private mailing cards.....	129
Authorized by Congress, printing of books.....	141
Auxiliary employees in post-offices.....	148
Average weight, mails carried on railroads.....	61
Award of contract for carrying mail—	
penalty for failure to execute contract.....	73
to lowest bidder.....	37

B.

	Page.
Badge or cap worn by postal clerks	81
Balances—	
certified by Auditor	121, 122
final and conclusive, except	122
revision by Comptroller	122
due from postmasters—	
evidence in suits	14
transferred in payment to contractors	53
due Post-Office Department, interest recovered in all suits	4
for foreign countries, postal accounts to show expenditures	52
how paid when claimant obtains judgment against United States	68
manner of paying, directed by Postmaster-General	76
metric system, furnished exchange offices	29
of appropriations—	
how applied	15
carried to surplus fund, when	15, 63
on postal accounts, certified to Postmaster-General	65
Baltimore—Advertisement, ocean mail service	113
Bankers not to receive unauthorized deposits	11
Benevolent society publications, second-class matter	120
Betterment of postal arrangements with foreign countries	19
Bid of previous failing contractor not considered	38
Bidder, contracts for carrying mail awarded to lowest	37
Bidders, failing, carrying mail, temporary service	116
Bidders—	
for carrying mail—	
failure to execute contract, penalty, etc.	73, 74, 75
oath of pecuniary ability	72
proceedings on failure	72
may be present at opening of bids	12
may examine bids	140
notified of opening of bids	12
Bidder's bond, carrying mail, penalty for unlawful approval	64
Bids—	
altering, forging, etc., to defraud United States, penalty	59
bidders notified of opening	12
carrying the mails—	
delivered, opened, recorded, preserved, etc.	37
inspected by Purchasing Agent	140
recorded	12
rejected, ocean mail service	113
Bill for advertising, etc., when paid	15
Binding—	
done at Government Printing Office	13
estimates	16
written requisition	16
Blank agency at Washington, D. C., established	20
Blank applications for money order, supplied	49
Blank books—	
furnished on written requisition	16
made at Government Printing Office	13
Blank forms, etc., money-order service	92
Blind, books for	141
Board to consider proposals	120
Bond Division, chief of	134
Bond of purchasing agent	139
Bond of superintendent, postal finance	139
Bonds—	
accounts settled in the Court of Claims	100
action for failure of postmaster to render accounts	27
altering, forging, etc., to defraud United States, penalty	59
bidders for carrying mail, justification of sureties	73
carriers, renewal	142

	Page.
Bonds—Continued.	
contractors, subletting mail contract.....	88
disbursing officers.....	8
in name of United States.....	20
inspectors.....	47
letter carriers.....	28
married women appointed postmasters.....	24
of clerks, renewal.....	142
officers in arrears, suit on.....	4
official, examination.....	123
postmasters'.....	24
acceptance, signed by First Assistant Postmaster-General.....	77
approval.....	77, 117
cover acts of employees, when.....	49
delivered to Auditor, when.....	24
failure to render accounts, action.....	27
liability.....	124
renewal.....	25, 142
sureties released.....	25
postal employees, renewal.....	142
proposals for carrying mail.....	64
renewal of official.....	124
suits against postmasters, limited to three years.....	25
Bondsmen—	
liable for damage from subletting mail contracts.....	78
notified of postmasters' deficiencies.....	81
responsibility.....	142
Book of Estimates, include annual estimates of Post-Office Department.....	133
Bookkeepers, salaries at first-class post-offices.....	106
Books—	
authority for printing.....	142
blank, to be made at Government Printing Office.....	13
circulated by order of Congress, limit of weight.....	66
customs duty collected.....	84
pamphlets, etc., for the blind.....	141
printed by Department restricted.....	141
third-class mail matter.....	68, 83
Boston, advertisement ocean mail service.....	113
Bounty, additional, forbidden, ocean mail service.....	115
Boxes for collection of mail not placed inside buildings, except.....	101
Box-rents receipts, records kept by postmaster.....	26
Box rents—	
collected, fourth-class postmasters.....	94
boxes erected by patrons.....	53
postal accounts to show revenue received.....	51
Branches of postal agencies in China and Japan, expenses.....	48
Branch post-offices—	
establishment, limitations.....	29, 125
expenses reported separately.....	29
issue of money orders.....	49
Breach of contract, right of action for, reserved to United States.....	9
Breaking bulk before delivering letters, penalty.....	43
Breaking into post-office, penalty.....	59
Breaking staple of mail pouch, penalty.....	58
Bringing postal deposits into Treasury.....	20
Broker not to receive unauthorized deposits.....	11
Building to be searched, when, by whom.....	48
Buildings, letter boxes not placed inside certain.....	101
Bulbs, seeds, plants, etc., rate of postage.....	104
Bulletins—	
agricultural experiment stations, mailed free.....	100
boards of health, second-class matter.....	121
Bureaus, acting officers.....	13
Bureau of Printing and Engraving, estimates for money-order blanks.....	92
Burglary of post-offices—	
penalty.....	59
claims for losses.....	102

	Page.
Burning of post-offices, claims for losses	102
Business address on envelopes furnished by Government	123
Business card in likeness of obligations of United States	12
Business card on obligations of United States, penalty for placing	12
Business of departments, reports of condition	129
Business, report of condition to President	129
Business scheme, unlawful, fictitious order	110
Buying articles stolen from the mails	57

C.

Cable-car service, rate of compensation	150
Cable cars transporting mail, rate of compensation	127
Cadets, ocean mail vessels	115
Canals, post-roads	39
Canceling ink, uniform, used in all post-offices	80, 81
Canceling marks removed from stamps, penalty	34, 85
Cancellation of certificate of entry of second-class matter	137
Cap worn by postal clerks	81
Captain of the watch, salary	18
Cards, postal, rate of postage, regulations, etc.	33
Care of public moneys	6, 27
Cargo, letters relating to, transmitted	42
Carpenter, Post-Office Department, salary	18
Carpenters, etc., salaries at first-class post-offices	108
Carriage by vessels of mail not received from post-office, forbidden	42
Carriers—	
acting or substitute	149
additional, employed for expediting mail	38
city service, graded	147
delinquency reported by postmaster	27
expenses, etc., reported separately	29
fees prohibited	29
illegal carrying of mail	41
new bonds	142
receive and deposit mail matter	41
restored to former grade	147
rural delivery, substitutes	137
leave of absence with pay	146
uniforms	28
Carrying letters outside the mail illegal	42, 43
Carrying merchandise, by rural carriers	140
Carrying ship letters, compensation	41
Carrying the mails—	
additional service, compensation	38
between United States and foreign countries	45
bid of previous failing contractor, not considered	38
bids recorded and preserved	37
bonds with proposals	64
change in terms of contract	38
compensation to railroads reduced	80
contracts annulled, when	38
awarded to lowest bidder	37
in name of United States	37
limited to four years	38
release of sureties	86
sublet	88
with railroads without advertising	37
domestic water routes	79
duplicate contract to Auditor	20
expedition when authorized, compensation	38
failure of bidder to execute contract	64, 73
foreign, contracts limited	79
from and to post-offices, contracts	40
justification of sureties on bidders' bonds	73
mail-messenger service	100
oath of pecuniary ability of bidder	72

	Page.
Carrying the mails—Continued.	
ocean mail service	113
on any train	44
on canals, contracts	39
on foreign vessels, postage paid	47
on land-grant roads, compensation	71
on plank roads, etc., contracts	39
on steamboats, etc., compensation, contracts, delivery, etc	40
payments on contract begin	38
penalty for unlawful approval of bidder's bond	64
postmasters and clerks not interested in contracts	27
private express forbidden, except	81
proceedings on failure of bidder or contractor	72
proposals delivered, opened, etc	37
without bonds not considered	64
record of proposals	130
recovery of additional cost on failure of bidder or contractor	72
report to Congress of additional allowances to contractors	22
route readvertised when	74
through foreign countries, revocation of contract	45
to county seat	39
what trains	82
written guarantee to accompany proposals	72
Carrying on fraudulent schemes, etc., use of fictitious names	110
Cars—	
for carrying mails	61
railway post-offices, additional pay	61
searched, when, by whom	48
transporting mail, display of weather signals	124
Cashiers, salaries at first-class post-offices	106
Census mail matter, transmitted free, registered free	132
Certificate—	
of Auditor, prior to payments	53
of clerk, to accompany judgment in postal suits	23
of necessity for illustrations in documents	141
of postmaster, lost money-order	119
of sureties' sufficiency, penalty for false	64
Certification of postal balances by Auditor	121
Certified copies of statement of demands as evidence	14
Certified money-order transcripts as evidence	14
Certified quarterly returns of postmasters as evidence	14
Change in distribution of clerks	7
Change in terms of contracts, carrying the mail	38
Change in terminus, mail route	40
Changes of money orders after issue	50
Character of contents, second-class matter	83
Character of publication, false evidence as to	103
Character of useless papers, reported	106
Charge on advertised letters	36
Charge, United States interested, penalty for officer receiving compensation for services	10
Charleston, advertisement, ocean mail service	113
Check, etc., for lottery ticket, unmailable	111
Chicago, Ill., salary of superintendent of registry	107
Chief clerk and superintendent of Post-Office Department building	133, 143
Chief clerk, railway mail service	135
Chief clerks—	
administer oaths of office free	111
and postal clerks, expenses	136
in charge of lines, railway mail service	135
salaries at second-class post-offices	109
Chief post-office inspector, expenses, etc	87, 134, 137, 143
China, mail agency, expenses	48
Clutes attached to letter boxes	117
Circuit courts, United States, jurisdiction in crimes, etc	6, 65

	Page.
Circulars—	
defined	84
fraudulent schemes, etc.....	109
likeness of obligations of United States.....	12
lottery, unmailable	111
obscene matter, etc., nonmailable, penalty.....	69, 70
rate of postage.....	76
third-class matter.....	68, 83
Circulation of lottery matter by interstate commerce, etc.....	124
City delivery service—	
acting or substitute carriers, pay.....	149
appointment of carriers	89
carriers graded.....	147
carriers' leave of absence.....	96
carriers transferred to clerks.....	148
clerks transferred to carriers.....	148
eight hours a day's work.....	103
extra pay for extra service.....	103
hours of service.....	103
pay of acting or substitute carriers.....	149
promotions of carriers.....	89, 147
reduction of carrier.....	147
substitute letter carriers.....	89, 96, 141
superintendent	134
Civil pension roll prohibited.....	131
Civil service examination for appointment.....	91
Civil suits—	
certified money-order transcripts as evidence.....	14
certified quarterly returns of postmasters as evidence.....	14
Claimant against United States, penalty for officer assisting.....	7
indebted to United States, amount due him withheld, when.....	68
Claims—	
against Post-Office Department, grounds for continuance in postal suit	4
against United States, amount due claimant to be withheld.....	68
penalty for officer acting as agent.....	7
barred after three years.....	101
by United States, compromised, etc., when.....	21
released, etc., when.....	21
for credit allowed in suits.....	4
disallowed by Auditor.....	4
presented to Auditor	4
for losses, exceeding \$10,000 reported to Congress.....	126
presented within six months.....	103
of postmasters, investigation, allowed, etc.....	102
orders originating, certified to Auditor.....	20
payment of rejected, forbidden.....	97
reexamination of rejected, forbidden.....	97
rejected, not reexamined or paid.....	97
reported to Congress, when.....	97
settled by Treasury Department.....	3
under exhausted and unavailable appropriations.....	79
United States interested, penalty for officer receiving compensation for service.....	10
witnesses' attendance.....	16
Classification—	
clerks	7
first-class post-offices	106
postal service.....	90
second-class post-offices.....	108
division of, chief.....	134
letter carriers.....	100
mail matter.....	29, 82
postal clerks.....	150, 151
postal employees, revised	90

	Page.
Classification—Continued.	
postal expenses in annual estimates	23
postmasters	71
railroad routes	44
railway postal clerks	89
rural delivery employees	137
Classified civil service, postal employees	90
Clause in contracts, Members of Congress not interested	75
Clerical assistance, allowance, unusual business in post-offices	28
Clerical labor, money-order offices, compensation	118
Clerical service, preference to certain postal clerks transferred	145
Clerical services—	
allowances at distributing offices	68
to cover all kinds	118
not paid from contingent fund	15
Clerical superiors not to receive gifts from subordinates	15
Clerk-hire allowances—	
at distributing offices	68
limited	139
Clerk of court, application for warrant of attachment made	11
Clerk of United States court, issue subpoena in claims against United States	16
Clerks—	
annual leave of absence, exclusive of Sundays and holidays	131
assignment and detail	125
as special delivery messengers	98
authorized to administer oath	14
civil-service examination for appointment	91
classification	7
compensation, method of computation	146
detail from postal to departmental service forbidden	129
distribution altered	7
false returns, special delivery business	99
for special-delivery mail, etc., salaries at first-class offices	108
giving voucher for sum greater than received	7
in charge of stations, salaries at first-class offices	108
in charge rural stations	138
in department	111
no fee as notary public, when	111
not to act as agents for contractors, etc.	21
salaries	18
in first-class offices, classification and salaries	106
in post-offices	141
absent, employment of substitute	141
acting or substitute clerks, pay	149
auxiliary	148
bonds	130
detailed	97
embezzlement money-order funds	61
graded	147
leaves of absence	113, 148
not to be contractor, etc.	27
pay of acting or substitute clerks	149
promotions	109, 147
reduction	147
transferred to carriers' service	148
issuing money order unlawfully	104
leave of absence, etc.	128
sick, not to affect regular	131
making political contributions, forbidden	92
may administer oath, when	132
new bonds	142
not to receive compensation from any person in United States matters	10
not to solicit contributions for gift to superior	15
performing duties of postmaster during his absence	49

	Page.
Clerks—Continued.	
postal, residence.....	123
promoted, when.....	148
receive no extra compensation as acting officers.....	5
restored to former grade.....	147
sign warrants, collection and transfer drafts.....	147
Closed-pouch service by electric or cable cars, compensation.....	150
Collecting postage due.....	85
Collection—	
of debts due Post-Office Department, superintended by Auditor.....	16
deficiency in postage, first-class matter.....	85
double postage.....	31
drafts to disbursing officers.....	10
duty on books.....	84
mail, boxes not placed inside buildings except.....	101
from street letter boxes.....	28
postage due.....	31
on special-delivery letters.....	105
postage on second-class matter.....	129
unpaid postage on foreign mails.....	32
Collections—	
improper, by carriers, penalty.....	41
paid into Treasury.....	20
Collector of customs may seize mail matter illegally carried.....	43
College, agricultural, reports transmitted by mail free.....	9
Collusion, recovery of payments made.....	54
Combination to prevent bidding, no contract to person entering.....	38
Combined inland and foreign mail service.....	97
Commercial rates for Department advertising.....	80
Commissioners of circuit courts may administer oaths.....	7
Commissions—	
of postmaster, expiration.....	25
issuance.....	63
on stamps canceled, postmasters'.....	94
withheld on postmasters' false returns.....	79
Communication about fraudulent schemes, etc.....	109
Companies, telegraph, to file written acceptance.....	12
Compensation—	
of acting or substitute carriers, clerks, and other employees.....	149
acting postmasters.....	86
additional, for expediting the mail.....	38
additional service, carrying the mail.....	38
on mail route.....	89
Assistant Postmasters-General.....	76
auxiliary employees in post-offices.....	148
blank agents, etc., postal accounts to show expenditures.....	52
carriage of ship letters.....	41
carriers, temporary service.....	40
carrying mails, ascertained.....	82
domestic water routes.....	79
land-grant roads.....	71
railroad routes.....	44
steamboats.....	40
clerical labor, money-order business.....	118
clerical services, not paid from contingent fund.....	15
unusual business in post-offices.....	28
clerks in charge of rural stations.....	138
clerks in post-offices of first and second classes.....	146
postal accounts to show expenditures.....	52
Department employees, fixed by appropriations.....	90
electric or cable cars, service.....	150
employees, how divided.....	146
Post-Office Department.....	18
rural delivery service.....	137
estimates for, authority.....	8
expedition of service.....	86

	Page.
Compensation—Continued.	
extra forbidden, when	14, 63
false returns of postmasters	79
fixed by Congress, railroad routes	44
fourth-class postmasters	94
increased by padding mails on railroads, penalty	130
letter carriers, postal accounts to show expenditures	52
letters transmitted without	43
mail agents in foreign ports	47
on ocean steamers	48
mail routes, temporary service	40
mail transportation on Pacific railroads, rates	9
oath administered by chief clerk	111
person holding two offices	7
person in arrears to United States	4
postal agents, China and Japan	48
postal clerks at sea	136
postmasters	92, 94
foreign money-order exchanges	49
included in annual estimates	23
increased by false returns, penalty	79
money-order business	51
postal accounts to show expenditures	52
post-office inspectors	137
publishing list of nondelivered letters	36
railroads, readjustment	61
further reduced	148
reduced	70, 80, 88
rate for ocean mail service	114
special delivery business, fixed by Postmaster-General, when	99
special-delivery messengers	98
special transfer service at St. Louis, Mo., and East St. Louis, Ill.	131
substitute city carriers	89, 96
substitute rural carriers	137
substitutes for clerks or carriers	148
temporary mail service	90
to officer for contract or office, penalty	9
in United States matters, forbidden	10
transportation of foreign mail	45
of mails by electric and cable cars	127
Complaint, fraudulent schemes, etc., offenses charged	60, 110
Compromise, etc.—	
claims, fines, penalties, etc.	21
judgments due Post-Office Department	17
Comptroller—	
decision on accounts conclusive	16
revision of auditor's certificates of balances	122
Comptroller's revision of postal accounts, final	122
Compulsion to make political contributions	91
Computation of compensation of employees	146
Concealing articles stolen from the mails	57
Concealing stolen United States property, penalty	67
Conception, matter relating to prevention, nonmailable, penalty	69, 70, 104
Concurrent jurisdiction United States circuit courts, crimes and offenses	65
Condition—	
in contracts, Members of Congress not interested	75
of business reports to head of Department and President	129
Conditions of bond—	
post-office clerks	130
proposals for carrying mail	64
Conditions of compensation to railroads	61
Conducting scheme to defraud, etc., penalty	110
Confidential agents, names not required in estimates	23
Confirmation by Senate, exemption from examination	91
Congress—	
annual report of Postmaster-General	21
estimates of expenditures and appropriations	5

	Page.
Congress—Continued.	
fix compensation and railroad routes.....	44
Members accepting fee for procuring contract or office.....	9
not interested in contracts.....	95
postage on correspondence.....	130
power to establish post-offices and post-roads.....	3
report of claims for losses.....	103
contingent fund.....	5
mail routes established.....	40
mail service, prohibited.....	123
proceeds from sale of useless property.....	19
terminate contract for carrying foreign mails.....	45
Congressional—	
action on report of useless papers.....	106
documents, mailed free.....	122
printer, furnished copy of postal conventions.....	19
record, when carried free by mail.....	67
postage on transient copies.....	65
Consent of Postmaster-General to compromises, etc.....	17, 21
Consideration, valuable, to Member of Congress or officer for procuring contract or office.....	9
Conspiracy—	
all persons equally guilty.....	12
to defraud United States.....	86
to violate United States statutes.....	86
Construction—	
of post-office cars.....	82
of vessels, ocean mail service.....	114
Consuls pay foreign postage due on certain United States matter.....	46
Contents of bidder's oath, proposals for carrying mail.....	64
Contents valuable, dead letters, disposal.....	36
Contingent expenses, appropriations.....	142
Contingent fund—	
expended on written order.....	6
expenditures, report to Congress.....	22, 127
not for clerical services, except.....	15, 90
Continuances in postal suits.....	4
Contract division, chief.....	134
Contracting parties, rights of action reserved to United States.....	9
Contractors—	
bid of previous failing, carrying the mail not considered.....	38
carry newspapers out of the mail.....	30
claims allowed in suits, when.....	4
carrying the mail, deductions for failures, etc.....	39
penalty for failure to perform service.....	74
proceedings on failure.....	72
debts due from defaulting, attachment issued, when.....	10
delinquency, certified copies of accounts as evidence.....	14
papers in suits.....	17
reported by postmaster.....	27
delivering mail keys or locks to unauthorized persons.....	59
entering combination to prevent bidding for carrying mail not to receive contract.....	38
extra allowances for carrying mails, report to Congress.....	22
failure, mail routes, temporary service.....	90, 116
failure to carry mail, penalty.....	64, 75
failure to provide properly equipped cars.....	88
finer, foreign mails.....	45
indemnity forfeited by subletting.....	88
liens upon pay.....	88
mail routes pay withheld.....	89
papers in suits against delinquent.....	17
payments by transfer of balances due from postmasters.....	53
postmasters and clerks not to be.....	27
prohibited to assign mail contract.....	39
Contracts, schedule, railroads must comply.....	145

Contracts—	Page.
accounts settled in Court of Claims.....	100
advertising required.....	63
annulled when unlawfully procured.....	9
awarded by purchasing agent.....	140
awarded for carrying mail, penalty for failure to execute contract.....	73
bear true date.....	20
carrying foreign mails, limited.....	79
carrying mails, advertising.....	88
annulled, when.....	38, 78
awarded to lowest bidder.....	37
change in terms.....	38
condition of bidder's bond to execute.....	64
copy of subcontract filed.....	78
Carrying mails, advertising—	
duplicate to Auditor.....	20
employees in Department not to be interested.....	21
extension authorized.....	72
failure to perform service.....	74
in name of United States.....	37
limited to four years.....	38
manner of subletting.....	78
new, in case of failing bidder.....	73
not given person entering combination to prevent bidding.....	38
on canals.....	39
on plank roads.....	39
on steamships.....	40
payments begin.....	38
release of sureties.....	86
report to Congress.....	21
subletting authorized when.....	78
through foreign countries revoked.....	45
transfer prohibited.....	39
contain clause that Members of Congress not interested.....	75
conveying mail between the United States and foreign countries.....	45
delivering special delivery matter.....	99
delivering of supplies.....	120
domestic water routes.....	79
duplicate delivered to Auditor.....	20
envelopes, for all Departments.....	123
for expenditures in excess of appropriations forbidden.....	142
extension, mail routes.....	40
foreign mail transportation discontinuance.....	45
free delivery supplies, four years.....	109
furnished separately to purchasing agent.....	140
future payments forbidden.....	15
inland and foreign postal service.....	97
in name of United States.....	20
mail bags, keys, locks, etc.....	63
mail report printed when.....	123
money-order blanks, etc.....	92
newspaper wrappers, etc.....	63
not assignable.....	9
not made unless authorized by law.....	8
not to exceed one year.....	12
ocean mail service.....	113, 115
postage stamps, etc.....	63
postal cards, etc.....	63
postal guide, four years.....	124
supplies, signed by whom.....	77
postmasters and clerks not to be interested in.....	27
printing post-route maps.....	123
procured by Member of Congress for consideration.....	9
service expedited.....	86
services or articles, payment not to exceed value.....	3
signed by whom.....	77

	Page.
Contracts—Continued.	
special delivery of mail.....	99
stamped envelopes, etc.....	63
sufficiency of sureties, unlawful approval of certificate.....	64
transfer causes annulment.....	9
transportation of mail.....	116
domestic, through foreign countries.....	44
subletting.....	88
to and from post-offices.....	40
true date affixed.....	20
without advertisement for carrying mail.....	37, 72
with subcontractor for carrying mail.....	88
United States interested, officer not to receive compensation for service.....	10
Contributions—	
for gift to superior, soliciting, forbidden.....	15
political, forbidden.....	92
receiving, by officers, etc., forbidden.....	91
Control of lock boxes and drawers erected by patrons.....	53
Controversy, United States interested, officer not to receive compensation for services.....	10
Conventional stipulations, foreign dead mail matter.....	20
Conventions with foreign countries, postal.....	19
Conventions, postal—	
copy for Public Printer.....	13
copy sent to Secretary of State.....	13
international money-order service.....	105
Conversion of public moneys, penalty for improper.....	11
Conveyance—	
of letters without compensation.....	43
of mail matter by private express forbidden.....	41
of obscene, etc., matters in mails, forbidden.....	70
Conveyances or trusts, set aside when.....	17
Conveying mail unlawfully, transportation of person, forbidden.....	41
Copies of postal conventions, number furnished to Postmaster-General.....	13
Copy of foreign contracts for carrying mails, report to Congress.....	22
Copy of postal conventions to Public Printer.....	13
Copyright, publications violating.....	83
Copyright article, postmaster to mail and receipt for.....	15
Corrected proofs, postage on.....	76
Correspondence about fraudulent schemes, etc.....	109
Correspondence by Members of Congress, transmitted free of postage.....	130
Cost—	
of clerical services at distributing offices, allowances.....	68
of temporary service carrying mail.....	74
Costs—	
in prosecuting debt of United States.....	68
liability for, on failure of suit.....	3
“Counterfeit-money fraud”.....	109
Counterfeit-money schemes, penalty.....	109
Counterfeiting, etc., bonds, records, etc., to defraud United States, penalty.....	59
foreign postage stamps, penalty.....	55
mail key, penalty.....	59
money orders, penalty.....	54, 103
postage stamps, penalty.....	55
Counterfeits, guards against, stamped envelopes.....	33
County matter free, second-class.....	85
County-seat post-offices not to be discontinued.....	125
County seat supplied with mail.....	39
Court of Claims, settlement of accounts, etc.....	100
Court to grant continuances in postal suits, when.....	4
Court to render judgment in postal suits, when.....	4
Credit for loss exceeding \$10,000 not allowed until.....	126
Credit to postmasters for losses authorized.....	102
Credits allowed in suits for delinquency.....	4
Crimes and offenses—	
jurisdiction United States circuit courts.....	65
United States district courts.....	66

	Page.
Crimes, preliminary proceedings-----	4
Criminal prosecutions—	
certified money-order transcripts as evidence-----	14
certified quarterly returns of postmasters as evidence-----	14
Currency United States for redemption, registration free-----	36
Curtailments of expenses, report to Congress-----	22
Custodians of funds, salaries of postmasters, full compensation-----	118
Custody of official seal-----	19
Customs duty on books-----	84
Cutting mail bags, etc., penalty-----	58
Cuttings, seeds, plants, etc., rate of postage-----	104
Damages, liquidated, failures of bidder to execute contract for carrying mail-----	64, 72
Dangerous weapons, robbing mail carrier-----	58
Date of filing papers, indorsed thereon-----	20
Day's work for city carriers, eight hours-----	103
Dead-letter office—	
fictitious matter forwarded to-----	110
return of undelivered letters-----	36
superintendent-----	134
unpaid letters, sent to-----	36
Dead letters—	
containing valuable inclosures, disposal-----	36
failure to deposit revenues-----	53
foreign, treatment-----	20
important or valuable, disposition-----	37
included in annual estimates-----	23
postal accounts to show expenditures-----	52
revenue received-----	52
proceeds reclaimed-----	37
unclaimed money, disposition-----	52
Death of postmaster, bond delivered to Auditor-----	24
Death of Postmaster-General, duties performed by whom-----	13
Debtors, discharge of imprisoned, judgment-----	21
Debts due—	
attachment may issue, when-----	10
paid into United States Treasury-----	117
payment enforced by Auditor-----	16
Deception in obtaining mail-----	57
Decide, forms of official papers, Postmaster-General to-----	76
Decision of Comptroller conclusive on settlement of accounts-----	16
Deductions—	
failure to perform service, mail contractors-----	39
from compensation, failure in ocean mail service-----	115
from pay of contractors, report to Congress-----	22
reports, not printed-----	123
salaries and expenses from receipts of post-office-----	27
Defacing postage stamps-----	33
report of failure-----	34
Defamatory matter nonmailable and withdrawn from mails-----	105
Defaulting contractor or officer, attachment issues, when-----	10
Defendant in postal suits entitled to one continuance, when-----	4
Deficiencies—	
allotments of appropriations to prevent-----	142
postmasters' accounts, action-----	81
Deficient postage—	
first-class matter, collected-----	85
special delivery letters, collection-----	105
Definition of circulars-----	84
Defraud United States, all parties equally guilty in conspiracy to-----	12
Delay—	
departure, foreign mails, fines-----	45
mail on account of bulk-----	65
mails on railroads, penalty-----	145
presenting vouchers for credits claimed by delinquent officers-----	4

	Page.
Delaying mail at ferry, penalty.....	44
Delaying newspapers, postal employees.....	57
Delinquencies—	
of contractors, etc., deduction from pay for carrying mail.....	39
reported by postmaster.....	27
of postmasters, etc.—	
auditor's report to Postmaster-General.....	66
certified copies of accounts as evidence.....	14
Delinquent contractors or officers, attachment issued, when.....	10
Delinquent officers—	
compensation withheld.....	4
suit on bond of.....	4
Delinquent postmasters reported, failure to deface stamps.....	34
Delinquents, papers furnished Department of Justice in suits.....	17
Delivery—	
fictitious matter.....	110
free county matter.....	85
letters on steamboats.....	40
lottery matter forbidden.....	112
mail keys and locks to unauthorized persons.....	59
mail matter by master of vessel at port of entry.....	42
directions.....	102
ordinary stamps for special.....	149
with unlawful inclosures, forbidden.....	102
nonmailable matter.....	84
obscene, etc., matter forbidden.....	70, 104
part paid official matter.....	96
postage stamps, etc., to unauthorized person, penalty.....	55
proposals, for carrying the mail.....	37
registered matter, receipt as evidence.....	35
salaries of superintendent, etc., at first-class post-offices.....	107
scurrilous, etc., matter, forbidden.....	105
special delivery letters with postage due.....	105
special delivery matter.....	98
supplies by contractors.....	120
Delivery to owner, stolen property recovered.....	54
Demands—	
by or against United States.....	3
not made on late postmasters, when.....	14
unlawful postage, penalty.....	31
what constitutes.....	14
Denominations, postage stamps.....	33
Department—	
employees, salaries.....	18
hours of service required.....	129
officers as inspectors.....	47
official matter transported by express, etc.....	116
regulations, prescribed by Postmaster-General.....	75
Department service, employment restricted.....	90
Department of Justice—	
directions in suit for money due Post-Office Department.....	17
equity proceedings for money due.....	17
papers furnished in suits against delinquents.....	17
report of proceedings, in postal suits.....	23
Departments—	
contracts for envelopes.....	123
quarterly report to President.....	129
open proposals same day.....	120
printing books.....	141
reports of condition of business.....	129
voluntary service accepted, when.....	142
Departure and arrival of mails, registers.....	26, 130
Deposit and receipt of mail matter by postal employees.....	41
Depositaries—	
keep separate accounts of postal funds.....	6
report to Post-Office Department, all deposits and payments.....	6

	Page.
Depository, duplicate receipts for deposits.....	20
Depositing in mails, circulars, etc., of fraudulent schemes, etc.....	109
Depositor to have duplicate receipt.....	117
Depository offices, claims for losses.....	103
Deposits—	
funds by disbursing officers.....	75
money-order funds, authorized.....	62
postal revenues.....	117
brought into Treasury.....	20
penalty for failure.....	53
public moneys in national banks by postmasters.....	60
in unauthorized bank.....	10
penalty for failure to make.....	8
ship letters in post-office at port of arrival.....	41
surplus revenue and other money by postmasters.....	27
unauthorized, money-order funds, embezzlement, penalty.....	61
unauthorized, of public moneys, penalty.....	6
unlawful, acceptance by banks.....	11
Depositions in claims against United States.....	16
Depredations on foreign mails in transit across United States.....	46
Deputy auditors, duties.....	115
Deserting the mail, penalty.....	58
Designation—	
of officers to sign warrants.....	116, 147
of outstanding appropriation included in estimates of expenditures.....	8
of postmasters as disbursing officers.....	96
of post-office inspectors.....	87
of railway postal clerks.....	89
Destroying mail—	
by postal employee, penalty.....	30
in letter boxes, etc., penalty.....	55
Destroying newspapers, postal employees.....	57
Destroying ordinary mail, penalty.....	31
Destroying valuable mail matter.....	56
Destruction—	
letter boxes or contents.....	138
money-order statements, etc.....	121, 128
registers of arrival and departure of mails.....	130
rejected proposals for carrying mail.....	130
Detail of clerks.....	125
from postal to departmental service forbidden.....	129
in post-offices.....	97
Detail of employees in post-offices.....	97
Detailed report of expenditures from contingent fund.....	5
Detained matter returned to owner or sender.....	31
Detaining newspapers, postal employees.....	57
Detention—	
illegally carried mail matter.....	143
of mail, by postmasters, penalty.....	30
by postal employees, penalty.....	30
undelivered letters.....	36
Devices attached to letter boxes.....	117
Device to defraud, delivery of registered mail forbidden.....	112
Die, forged, for postage stamps, etc., penalty.....	55
Diminution, postal-car service, reported.....	81
Directions for transmission, delivery, etc., of mail matter.....	102
Directions of Department of Justice obeyed in suits for money due.....	17
Directory clerks, etc., salaries at first-class post-offices.....	108
Disbursements—	
postmasters', Auditor's report.....	17
Disbursing clerk, Post-Office Department.....	18, 133, 143
Disbursing officers—	
advances to.....	3
appropriations from, as basis for estimated expenditures.....	5
bonds, limit of liability of sureties.....	104
collect drafts.....	10

Disbursing officers—Continued.

deposit funds.....	75
duplicates of lost checks, how issued.....	62
give bonds.....	8
make payments in kind of money furnished.....	10
not to exchange funds.....	10
not to receive extra compensation.....	5
penalty for receiving unauthorized deposits from.....	11
postmasters, when.....	96
required to furnish detailed statements of contingent fund.....	5
requiring voucher for amount greater than paid, penalty.....	7
transfers of funds to.....	75
Discharge from United States service, gifts to superiors.....	15
Discharge of imprisoned judgment debtors.....	21
Discipline of clerks and carriers.....	147
Discontinuance—	
county-seat post-offices, forbidden.....	125
foreign mail transportation contracts.....	45
free-delivery service.....	100
post-offices by Postmaster-General.....	26, 76
service on post routes.....	40
Dismissal from office, postmaster, etc., signing false certificate.....	64
Dismissal—	
of employees.....	75
acting as agent for contractor.....	21
of postmaster for unlawful approval of bidder's bond, carrying mail.....	64
Dispatchers, etc.—	
salaries at first-class post-offices.....	108
salaries at second-class post-offices.....	109
Display of weather signals on cars, etc., carrying mail.....	124
Disposal—	
of Department moneys, Postmaster-General to superintendent.....	76
publication refused by patron.....	30
unclaimed printed matter in post-offices.....	54
valuable inclosures in dead letters.....	36
Disposing of postage stamps, etc., unlawfully, penalty.....	53
Disposition—	
files of papers in post-offices.....	143
important dead letters.....	37
money represented by unpaid money orders.....	118
penalties and forfeitures, when recovered.....	54
useless papers.....	106
Distributing offices, allowances for clerk hire.....	68
Distribution—	
canceling ink.....	81
clerks.....	7, 125
Department business, regulations.....	75
mails on cars.....	61
newspapers by mail carriers.....	30
District attorney—	
application for warrant of attachment.....	11
reports in postal suits.....	23
District courts of United States, jurisdiction.....	6, 65, 66
Division—	
of appointments, chief.....	143
of bonds and commissions, chief.....	143
of classification, superintendent, special agents.....	144
of contracts, chief.....	144
of correspondence, chief.....	143
of dead letters, superintendent.....	144
of finance, assistant superintendent.....	144
of foreign mails, chief clerk.....	144
of mail equipment, chief.....	144
of money orders, superintendent, chief clerk to superintendent.....	144
of redemption, chief.....	144

	Page.
Division—Continued.	
of registered mails, superintendent, assistant superintendents	144
of rural delivery, superintendent, assistant superintendent	144
of stamps, superintendent	144
of supplies, superintendent, assistant superintendent	114
Division of compensation of employees	146
Division of superintendents, Railway Mail Service	135
Documents—	
authority for printing	142
Congressional, mailed free	122
containing illustrations certified to by head of departments	141
restriction on illustration	141
Domestic mails through foreign countries, transportation	44
Domestic money orders, invalid after one year	118
Domestic productions preferred in purchasing supplies	140
Domestic water routes, new and old service, contracts	79
Donation from subordinates to superiors	15
Double postage—	
collected, when	31
on ship letters	32
Double postal cards	86
Double salaries	7
Drafts—	
in remitting money-order funds	62
for transfer of funds to disbursing officers	75
signed, by clerks designated by Postmaster-General	147
to disbursing officers, to be collected	10
Draftsman at New York, N. Y., post-office, salary	108
Drawers in post-offices, erected by patrons	53
Drawing staple of mail pouch, penalty	58
Drop letters—	
insufficiently prepaid, disposition	36
rate of postage	32, 98
Duplicates—	
in payment of lost money order	119
of lost checks, how issued	62
of lost money order issued	50
of mail contracts, delivered to Auditor	20
receipt to depositor of postal revenues	117
Duration of mail contracts, domestic water routes, old service	79
Duties—	
of deputy auditors	115
of postal employees	62, 76
of Postmaster-General, not connected with postal service	76
of postmasters	25
performed during his absence	49
of purchasing agent	139
Duty on books, collection	84
E.	
East St. Louis, Ill., special transfer service	131
Efficiency—	
considered in promotions and reductions of clerks and carriers	147
of employees, reports to Congress	111
Eight hours a day's work for city carriers	103
Electric and cable cars, transporting mail, rate of compensation	127, 150
Eligibility of clerks and carriers for promotions or transfer	148
Embezzlement defined—	
accepting unlawful deposits, etc	11
failure to account for postage stamps, etc	53
failure to deposit postal revenues	53
failure to deposit public moneys	8
payment of less sum than stated in voucher filed	7
pledging, etc., postage stamps, etc	53

	Page.
Embezzlement—	
of mail	56
of mail keys, etc., penalty	58
of mail matter by postal employee, penalty	30
of money-order funds, penalty	61
of ordinary correspondence, penalty	31
of post-office property, etc., penalty	58
of public money or property	16, 81
of United States property, punishment	67
of valuable mail by postal employees, penalty	55, 56
Embezzling newspapers, postal employees	57
Emergency expenditures	142
Employees—	
annual leave of absence exclusive of Sundays and holidays	131
as special-delivery messengers	98
delinquency, papers in suits	17
detail from postal to departmental service forbidden	129
dismissal	75
forbidden to solicit contributions	91
incapacitated, not paid	133
in Department not to act as agents for contractors, etc.	21
report of efficiency	111
salaries	18
in first-class post-offices, classification and salaries	106
in postal service, classification	99
pay of acting or temporary	149
in post-offices, detail	97
not to be contractors, etc.	27
promoted by Postmaster-General	109
leave of absence	128, 131
not compelled to make political contributions	91
not to be interested in mail contracts	21
not to solicit contributions for gifts to superior	15
of Department, debts due from defaulting, attachment issued, when	10
no fee as notary public, when	111
weigh mails	66
of postal service, estimates for appropriations	23
forbidden to receive fees from public	27
of United States, false personation	95
postal, forbidden to use postage stamps, etc., previously used	34
oath of office	62
receipt of mail	41
receipting for sum greater than received	7
removing stamps from mail matter, penalty	34
soliciting political contributions	91
Employment—	
additional carriers for expediting the mail	38
additional stock for expediting the mail	38
in departmental service	90
letter carriers, free-delivery service	99
mail messenger service, authorized	100
special agents as disbursing officers, bonds required	8
substitute clerk or carrier	141
substitutes for absent clerks or carriers	148
substitute rural carriers	137
Endorsee of money order, identification required	131
Enforced forfeiture of packages containing letters, proceedings	43
Engineer, Post-Office Department, salary	18
Engraved forms for money orders	50, 119
Engraving on stamped envelopes forbidden	33
Engravings in public documents	141
Entry—	
as second class, submitting false evidence to secure	103, 141
of allowances, etc., to bear true date	20
of postal car, penalty for violent	138
of vessels to be made after letters are delivered at post-office	42

	Page.
Envelopes—	
bearing indecent matter, etc., not mailable, penalty	69, 70
for all departments, contracts	123
furnished by departments, restrictions on printing	123
letter-sheet	86
newspaper, stamps impressed	33
stamped, engraving on, forbidden	33
improvements	33
lithographing on, forbidden	33
postmaster held accountable for	33
printing thereon forbidden	33
provided by Postmaster-General	33
Equipment—	
of post-office cars	82, 88
withdrawal from mails	145
Equity proceedings for money due Post-Office Department	17
Errors in money orders corrected by Superintendent Money-Order System	131
Establishment—	
of branch post-offices	29
of civil pension roll prohibited	131, 136
of free-delivery service	99
of international money-order service	105
of post-offices, by whom	24, 76
of post-office stations, limitations	125
of system of registration	34
Estimates—	
annual, report to Congress	22
appropriation for expenses of postal service	23
Bureau of Engraving and Printing, money-order blanks, etc.	92
for compensation, authority	8
for new items of expenditures, explanation required	8
furnished Secretary of Treasury annually	133
manner of communicating	5
of expenditures include amount of outstanding appropriations	8
postal-car service, separate item	81
printing and binding	16
Public Printer, for money-order blanks	92
revenues and expenditures, for Congress	146
to Congress, expenses of free-delivery service	128
money-order service	126
Evidence—	
embezzlement money-order funds	61
in prosecutions for failure to execute contracts for carrying mail	73, 75
for failure of contractor to carry mail	73, 75
of accessory, embezzlement of United States property	67
"intended to be conveyed by mail"	56
money-order transcripts	14
of agency, advertisement in lottery, etc., schemes	112
fraudulent schemes, etc.	113
promotions of clerks and carriers made on satisfactory	147
quarterly returns of postmasters as	14
receipt for registered matter delivered	35
satisfactory to Postmaster-General, "fictitious" order	110
to secure entry as second-class, penalty for false	141
Examination—	
for appointment, clerks, etc.	91
for mail matter on vessels by post-office inspectors	43
of accounts, oaths administered by whom	17
of fourth-class matter	84
of official bonds	123
of packages	84
of second-class matter at mailing office	82
of third-class mail matter	69
of vouchers by Auditor	28
of witnesses, claims against United States	16
Exceptions warranting emergency expenditures	142

	Page.
Excess commissions, fourth-class postmasters-----	95
Excess of expenditures forbidden-----	142
Excess of postage to be refunded by postmaster-----	141
Excess payments, recovered-----	54
Exchange offices—	
furnished, metric postal balances-----	29
money-order service, allowance for clerks-----	118
Exchange—	
of funds in hands of disbursing officer, forbidden-----	10
of money-order funds, embezzlement, penalty-----	61
of public moneys for other funds-----	6, 27
Exchange system, international money-order service-----	105
Exchange, foreign money-order-----	49
Excluded from the mails, certain articles-----	69
Exclusion of matter from public printing-----	123
Ex-Congressmen, etc., franking privilege-----	122
Execution—	
against property of released debtors-----	21
awarded on certified copies of accounts-----	14
in suits for money due, returns of marshal-----	4
of new bond required-----	142
of postal laws by Postmaster-General-----	76
of warrant of attachment where property removed-----	11
on judgment, speedy in postal suits-----	23
Executive distribution of officers, not authority for estimates for compensation-----	8
Exemption—	
of clerks from existing laws respecting employment, prohibited-----	136
from militia duty-----	3
Exhausted appropriations, claims under-----	79
Exigency purchases, etc-----	63
Existence of agency in lottery matters, how ascertained-----	112
Existing surety on mail contracts, release-----	38
Ex-Members of Congress, mail seeds, etc., free-----	67
Expedition in carrying the mail, compensation-----	38, 86
Expenditures—	
by postmasters, general authority-----	127
carriers, etc., reported separately-----	29
clerical services, from contingent fund, forbidden-----	15
current and ensuing fiscal years, Postmaster-General to report to Congress-----	146
estimates communicated to Congress-----	5
for new items to be explained-----	8
to include amount of outstanding appropriations-----	8
from contingent fund, report to Congress-----	5, 22
in excess of appropriations forbidden-----	142
not to exceed appropriations-----	15
ocean mail service-----	127
of postal service, reports to Congress-----	127
statement of Auditor-----	66
postmaster to keep records-----	26
rent, light, and fuel at third-class offices-----	149
restrictions-----	142
to be for objects appropriated for-----	12
under each appropriation, shown in Auditor's accounts-----	67
vouchers submitted to Auditor-----	28
Expenses—	
Assistant superintendents, free delivery-----	131
Assistant division superintendents, Railway Mail Service-----	135
Assistant superintendents, Railway Mail Service-----	135, 139
registry system-----	135
salary and allowance division-----	135
carriers and branch offices reported separately-----	29
chief clerks and railway postal clerks-----	136
Chief post-office inspector-----	87
deducted from postal receipts at post-offices-----	27

	Page.
Expenses—Continued.	
Division superintendents, Railway Mail Service	135
Foreign money-order exchanges, how paid	49
free-delivery service, estimates to Congress	128
international money-order service	105
mail agents in foreign ports	47
money-order service, estimates to Congress	126
postal agencies, China and Japan	48
postal service, Auditor's report	17
Post-office Department, controlled by Postmaster-General	76
post-office inspectors	146
Railway Mail Service, officers traveling	111
Sea postal clerks	136
special delivery of mail	98
traveling, etc., special agents	47
weighing mails, how paid	66
Expiration of postmasters' commissions	25
Explanation required of estimates for new items of expenditures	8
Express company not to carry obscene matter	126
Express, private, transmission of letters forbidden	42
Express shipment of postal supplies	145
Express transportation of official matter, except	116
Ex-sailors and ex-soldiers, preference in appointments	91
Extension—	
of contracts for carrying mail	72
of hours of service in Department	129
of mail routes	40
of service under contract	89
Extra compensation—	
as acting officer forbidden	5
forbidden, when	5, 14, 63
Extra pay for city carriers	103
Extra postage for carriers prohibited	29
Extra services, no extra compensation	5

F.

Failing bidder, temporary service, carrying mail	116
Failing contractor for carrying mail	74
Failing contractor, temporary service, carrying mail	116
Failure of bidder for carrying mail—	
to execute contract	64, 73, 74
proceedings	72
temporary service	116
Failure of contractor—	
to carry mail, penalty	73
to perform service, carrying mail, penalty	64
Failure of mail contractors—	
to perform service, deductions	39
temporary service	90
Failure of officer to account for money received	16
Failure of postal employee to take oath of office	24
Failure of postmaster to make quarterly report, penalty	27
Failure to account for postage stamps, etc., penalty	53
Failure to collect postage due, penalty	85
Failure to deface stamps, report	34
Failure to deposit—	
postal revenues, penalty	53
public moneys, penalty	8
Failure to execute contract for carrying mail, penalty	75
Failure to perform service carrying mail, penalty	75, 89
Failure to produce money-order funds, evidence of embezzlement	61
Failure to supply properly equipped cars	88
False address, etc., unlawful business	110
False certificate to bidder's bond, carrying mail, penalty	64

	Page.
False evidence to secure entry as second-class matter.....	103, 141
False personation of United States officers.....	95
False pretenses—	
mail for obtaining money, not delivered, when.....	112
obtaining money through mails.....	111
False receipts, penalty for filing.....	7
False returns—	
by postmasters.....	79
special-delivery business, penalty.....	99
False swearing of sureties on bonds of bidders for carrying mail, penalty.....	73
False vouchers, penalty for filing.....	7
Fastest trains carry mails.....	96
Fee for administering oath, clerk as notary public.....	111
Fee for oath to pensioner.....	122
Fee not returned on repayment of money order.....	50
Fees for money orders.....	66, 117
Fees for registration of mail matter.....	35
Fees from public, postal employees not to receive.....	27
Fees of officers, liability for, on failure of suit.....	3
Fees to letter carriers, forbidden.....	29
Fees to officer assisting in prosecution of claims against United States, forbidden.....	7
Fees to postal employees prohibited.....	41
Felony—	
embezzlement, etc., of United States property.....	67
false personation of United States officers.....	95
postal employees using previously used stamps.....	34
Ferry, mail delayed, penalty.....	44
Ferryman on post-roads, exemption from militia duty.....	3
Fictitious matter.....	110
Fictitious names, fraudulent schemes, etc.....	110
Field inspectors' per diem.....	147
Fifteen days' leave of absence, clerks in post-offices.....	113
Files and records division, chief of.....	134
Files of useless papers, disposition.....	106, 143
Filing of mail carriers' contract to secure lien.....	88
Filling vacancy, no extra compensation to officer.....	14
Finance clerks, salaries at first-class post-offices.....	106
Finance division, superintendent.....	134
Finance, postal, bond of superintendent.....	133
Finances of the Department, report to Congress.....	22
Finances, postal service—	
controlled by Postmaster-General.....	76
reports to Congress.....	127
Financial condition, Post-Office Department, Auditor's report.....	71
Fines and penalties—	
deposited as part of postal revenues.....	52
postal accounts to show revenue received.....	52
Fines—	
failures and delinquencies, mail contractors.....	39
irregularities, ocean mail service.....	115
violation postal laws, paid into Treasury.....	54
Fines from mail contractors, report to Congress.....	22
Fines on contractors for foreign mails.....	45
Fines—	
remitted, when.....	21
reports not to be printed.....	123
Fire in post-offices, claims for losses.....	102
Fireman and blacksmith, Post-Office Department, salary.....	18
Firemen, etc., salaries at first-class post-offices.....	108
First Assistant Postmaster-General—	
approves postmasters' bonds.....	77
office.....	143
signing of certain contracts.....	77
First-class mail, defined.....	82

	Page.
First-class matter	29
insufficiently prepaid	85
opening forbidden	105, 112
rate of postage	98
First-class postmasters, compensation	71, 92, 93
First-class post-offices—	
classification and salaries of clerks	106
clerk hire, money-order business	118
clerks promoted	109
First-class rate on packages, when	114
First-class vessels, ocean mail service	114
Folding of newspapers for mailing	30
Foreign and inland postal service, contracts	97
Foreign countries—	
collection of unpaid postage	32
mail agencies	47
not in Postal Union, rate of postage	32
postal conventions	19
transportation of domestic mails through	44
transportation of mails between United States and	45
Foreign dead mail matter, treatment	20
Foreign letters, advertising nondelivered	35
Foreign mails—	
compensation for carrying	45
contracts limited	79
contracts, report to Congress	22
deemed mail of United States, when	46
discontinuance of contract for carrying	45
fines on contractors	45
how transported	45
in transit across United States, protection	46
ocean mail service	113
postal cards	87
superintendent	19, 134
Foreign mail service, agencies established	47
Foreign matter, retaliatory postage, when imposed	46
Foreign money orders, counterfeiting, forging, etc	103
Foreign money-order exchanges	49
Foreign postage due on certain United States matter, consuls may pay	46
Foreign postage stamps, forging, etc., penalty	55
Foreign postal service combined with inland	97
Foreign publications, second-class matter, when	83
Foreign vessels carry mail, postage paid	47
Foremen of crews or sections, salaries at first-class post-offices	108
Forfeiture and penalties—	
collection by Auditor	16
recovery and disposition	54
Forfeiture of packages containing letters, proceedings	43
Forfeitures, remitted, when	21
Forging—	
bonds, etc., to defraud United States, penalty	59
foreign postage stamps, penalty	55
mail key, penalty	59
money orders penalty	54, 103
postage stamps, penalty	55
Form of bonds of disbursing officers	8
Form of depositaries' reports of postal funds, prescribed by Postmaster-General	6
Form of keeping postal accounts, Auditor's report to Postmaster-General	66
Form of official papers by Postmaster-General decided	76
Form of postmasters' affidavit prescribed by Postmaster-General	79
Formation of second-class matter	83
Forms—	
money orders	50, 119
money-order applications, supplied	119

	Page.
Forwarding letters with insufficient postage prepaid-----	36
Forwarding mail matter—	
directions-----	102
without additional charge-----	37
Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General—	
Acting Postmaster-General, when-----	150
approve postmasters' bonds-----	117
authority for appointment-----	116
chief clerk-----	144
office-----	134, 144
Fourth-class matter—	
defined-----	125
examination-----	84
improper additions-----	102
permissible additions-----	102
rates of postage-----	84
Fourth-class offices advancement effective when-----	95
Fourth-class postmasters—	
administer oaths to pensioners-----	122
appointed and removed by Postmaster-General-----	71
compensation-----	94
excess commission-----	95
salaries-----	71
Fourth-class post-offices, allowances for clerk hire-----	68
Fourth-class vessels, ocean mail service-----	114
Four year contract for free-delivery supplies-----	109
Franked congressional matter, not transported by express-----	116
Franked matter—	
Congressional-----	122
restrictions as to articles admitted to mails-----	145
Franking privilege—	
agricultural bulletins, reports, etc-----	100
census mail matter-----	132
ex-Congressmen, etc-----	122
Ida S. McKinley-----	137
Leuretia R. Garfield-----	88
Members of Congress-----	130, 140
Members of Congress sending Congressional Record-----	67
penalty for misuse-----	78
who entitled-----	77
Fraternal society publications, second-class matter-----	120
Frauds, investigations, who may administer oath-----	132
Frauds on the Government, oaths to witnesses in investigations-----	14
Fraudulent certificate to bidder's bond, carrying mail, penalty-----	64
Fraudulent conveyances or trusts, set aside when-----	17
Fraudulent demand for unlawful postage, penalty-----	31
Fraudulent imitation of postal cards, etc., penalty-----	55
Fraudulent increase, postmasters' compensation, penalty-----	79
"Fraudulent," on outside of mail matter returned, when-----	112
Fraudulent payments, no service performed-----	54
Fraudulent schemes—	
delivery of mail forbidden, when-----	112, 124
payment of money orders forbidden, when-----	50, 112
penalty-----	59, 60, 109
registered mail returned to sender-----	35
"Fraudulent" to be stamped on registered lottery letters returned to sender-----	35
Fraudulently obtaining mail matter, penalty-----	56, 57
Free country matter-----	85
Free-delivery assistant superintendents, per diem-----	131
Free-delivery offices, special-delivery messengers-----	99
Free-delivery service—	
contracts for supplies, four years-----	109
discontinuance-----	60
established, when-----	79

	Page.
Free-delivery service—Continued.	
estimates of expenses to Congress	128
rural	117
superintendent designated	60
Free mailing, agricultural reports, etc.	100
Free registration—	
census mail matter	132
official matter	35, 96
United States currency for redemption	36
Free transmission of agricultural-college reports	9
Free transportation for railway postal clerks	125, 127
Freight shipment of postal supplies	145
Frequency, conveyance of mails	61
Frequency of publication, lists of nondelivered letters	35
Fuel and light, third-class post-offices—	
allowances	149
limitation	127
Fulfillment of contract or purchase authorized by law	8
Fund, contingent, expenditures from	6
Funds—	
deposited by disbursing officer	75
exchange by disbursing officers forbidden	10
money order, embezzlement, penalty	61
postal, separate accounts, by depositaries	6
transferred to disbursing officer	75
Furniture, withdrawal from mails	145
Further demand for new balance due from postmaster not necessary	14

G.

Galveston, advertisement, ocean mail service	113
Garfield, Lucretia R., franking privilege	88
General advertisement, contracts for carrying mail	116
General duties of Postmaster-General	76
General utility clerks, etc.—	
salaries at first-class post-offices	108
salaries at second-class post-offices	109
General mail lettings, advertisement	88
General superintendent, Railway Mail Service, expenses	88
General supervision of Department and postal service	76
General utility clerks, etc.—	
salaries at first-class post-offices	108
salaries at second-class post-offices	109
Gift concert matter, nonmailable, penalty	70, 111
Gift enterprise, payment of money orders forbidden	50
Gift enterprise matter, delivery forbidden	112
Gifts to superiors	15
Giving fee to officer procuring contract or office, penalty	9
Government building available, lease of post-office ceases	97
Government employees, leave of absence	131
Government funds, embezzlement	16, 81
Government funds, etc., claims for losses	102
Government funds, penalty for failure to render accounts	16
Government of Department, regulations prescribed by Postmaster-General	75
Government preference, mail transportation on land-grant railroads	9
Government Printing Office to do printing, binding, etc.	13
Government telegrams, priority on certain lines	60
Gratuity to officer assisting in prosecution of claims against United States, forbidden	7
Gratuity to postal employee, forbidden	109
"Green articles"	109
"Green cigars" fraud	109
"Green coin"	109
Green goods schemes, penalty	109
Guarantors' sufficiency, penalty for false certificate	64

	Page.
Guaranty, etc., altering, forging, etc., to defraud United States, penalty	59
Guaranty in writing to accompany every proposal for carrying mail	72
Guaranty of bidder for carrying mail	37
Guards against counterfeits, stamped envelopes	33

H.

Handbill in likeness of obligations of United States	12
Habana, Cuba, mail agency	47
Head of department—	
certificate of necessity of illustrations	141
quarterly report to President	129
subpœna for witnesses in claims against United States	16
Health bulletins of State boards, second-class matter	121
Hearing before canceling second-class mail privileges	137
Higher rate of postage, charged, when	29
Highways, post-routes	95
Historical interest of old papers	106, 143
Historical Societies' publications, second-class matter	121
Holding unmailable matter	84
Holding two offices forbidden, except	121
Holidays not counted in clerks' leave of absence	131, 148
Honorable discharge from military or naval service, railway mail clerks	145
Honorable service roll prohibited	131, 136
Hours of delivery, special-delivery matter	99
Hours of service—	
city letter carriers	103
required in Department	129
Hypothecating postage stamps, etc., penalty	53

I.

Identical pieces of third and fourth-class matter, postage, how paid	140
Identification of addressee, fictitious matter	110
Identification of payee of money order required	131
Illegal carrying of letters outside the mail	42
Illegal carrying of mail by carriers, etc.	41
Illegally carried mail matter, seized by collector or post-office inspector	43
Illusory certificate of sufficiency of sureties, penalty	64
Illustrations in public documents	141
Immediate delivery of articles, etc., advertising unnecessary	63
Immediate delivery, special-delivery matter	98
Immoral matter, not mailable, penalty	69, 70
Immoral publications, etc., nonmailable	104
Important dead letters disposed of, how	37
Importation of lottery matter by Interstate Commerce, etc.	124
Imposition of retaliatory postage on certain foreign matter	46
Improper collection of mail by carrier, penalty	41
Improper payments, services not performed	54
Improper sales of postage stamps, etc., penalty	53
Improper use of public moneys, penalty	11
Improperly rated mail matter	29
Improvements in stamps and stamped envelopes	33
Incapacitated persons not employed in postal service	133, 136
Incidental expenses—	
assistant superintendents, Railway Mail Service	128
Post-Office Department, accounts audited	121
Inclosing writing in lower class matter, penalty	30
Inclosures—	
dead letters, disposition of valuable	36
higher class in lower class matter	102
what permissible in newspapers	69, 101
Inclosures in second-class matter—	
rate of postage	82
what permissible	69, 101

	Page.
Increase—	
indemnity for loss of registered mail.....	138
postal-car service reported.....	81
postmasters' salary.....	28
Increased appropriation asked in annual estimates, to be explained.....	8
Increasing weight of mails during weighing period.....	130
Indebtedness of officers, limit of liability of sureties on bonds.....	104
Indecent matter, nonmailable—	
penalty.....	70
withdrawn from mails.....	105
Indecent publications, etc., nonmailable.....	104
Indefinite appropriations.....	15
Indemnity for lost registered mail.....	126, 138
Indemnity to contractors—	
carrying mail through foreign country.....	45
forfeited by subletting.....	88
Indictment in fraudulent schemes, etc., offenses charged.....	60, 110
Indorsements on money orders.....	65
forging, etc., penalty.....	54, 55, 103
Indorsements on official mail matter, penalty envelopes.....	78
Information, fraudulent schemes, etc.....	110
Informers liable for costs and fees.....	3
Informers' share of penalties, etc., recovered.....	54
Injuring letter boxes or mail matter therein.....	138
Injuring mail bags, etc., penalty.....	58
Injuring mail in letter boxes, etc., penalty.....	55
Injuring street letter boxes, penalty.....	28
Ink, uniform canceling.....	80
Inland steamboat service appropriations.....	97
Inquiry clerks, etc., salaries at first-class post-offices.....	108
Inspection division, chief.....	134
Inspection of bids.....	140
Inspectors—	
appointed by Postmaster-General.....	144
authorized to search vessels, when.....	43
bonds.....	47
Department officers may be.....	47
examine postmasters' records.....	26
expenses.....	146
formerly rural agents and division superintendents.....	144
number and salaries.....	150
placed in charge of post-offices.....	25
Inspectors in charge.....	137
Institutions of learning, publications, second-class matter.....	120
Instructions—	
Department of Justice obeyed in postal suits.....	17
postal employees.....	76
weighing mails.....	66
Insufficiently prepaid postage on drop letters.....	36
Insufficient sureties on bidder's bond, unlawful approval.....	64
"Intended to be conveyed by mail," construed.....	56
Intention of bidder—	
execute contract for carrying mail.....	64
perform service carrying mail.....	64
Intercepting letters, penalty.....	31
Interest—	
in claim to officer for assistance rendered, forbidden.....	7
in contract not assignable.....	9
on balances due Post-Office Department.....	4
on balances withheld from claimant.....	68
on deposits of public moneys, not to be received.....	60
rate of, on balances due Post-Office Department.....	4
recovered in suits for balance due Post-Office Department.....	4
received on wrong payments.....	54

	Page.
International money-order service—	
establishment-----	105
exchange offices, allowance for clerks-----	118
expenses-----	105
rules and regulations-----	105
system of exchange-----	105
Interrogatories for sureties on bonds of bidders for carrying mail-----	73
Interstate commerce—	
transporting obscene matter-----	126
used in circulation of lottery matter-----	124
Invalid lost money orders, paid by warrant-----	119
Invalid money orders—	
more than one indorsement-----	65
paid by warrant only-----	118
payment-----	121
Inventory of Department property-----	19
Investigations, oaths to witnesses-----	14
Investigations of frauds, who may administer oath-----	132
Irregularity of United States officer, oaths to witnesses in investigations--	14
Issuance of duplicates of lost checks-----	62
Issue of money orders—	
at branch post-offices-----	49
penalty for unlawful-----	103
Issuing money orders on credit, penalty-----	49
Items of expenditure from outstanding appropriation, designated in estimates-----	8
Items suspended in postal accounts-----	122

J.

Janitors, etc.—	
salaries at first-class post-offices-----	108
salaries at second-class post-offices-----	109
Japan, mail agency, expenses-----	48
Judge before whom application for warrant of attachment may be made--	11
Judge of any court, administer oath in settlement of accounts-----	17
Judge of United States court, issue subpoena in claims against United States-----	16
Judgment authorized on certified copies of accounts-----	14
Judgment conclusive in settlement of accounts-----	101
Judgment obtained by claimant against United States, balance, how paid--	68
Judgments, compromise, debts due Post-Office Department-----	17
Judgments in postal suits for money due, returns on execution-----	4
Judgments, speedy execution in postal suits-----	23
Jurisdiction, United States circuit courts—	
postal suits-----	6
original, in crimes, etc-----	65
Jurisdiction, United States district courts, crimes and offenses, etc-----	6, 66
Justice of peace—	
administers oath in settlement of accounts-----	17
oath taken before-----	7
try postal suits and prosecutions-----	24
Justification of sureties on bonds of bidders for carrying mail-----	73

K.

Keeping accounts of postal funds by depositaries-----	6
Keeping postal accounts-----	76
form reported by Auditor-----	66
Keys, mail bags, contracts signed by whom-----	77

L.

Laborers, etc., salaries first-class post-offices-----	108
Land-grant railroads, compensation for mail transportation-----	9, 44, 71, 149

	Page.
Lascivious matter, nonmailable and withdrawal from mails, penalty	69, 105
Law authorizing proposed expenditures, cited in estimates	5
Law clerk, Post-Office Department	143
Laws of postal service, executed	76
Leases of post-offices, canceled, when, etc.	97
Leave of absence	128
city letter carriers	96
clerks in post-offices	113, 148
employees mail-bag repair shops	113
exclusive of Sundays and holidays	131
Government employees	131
postal clerks	136
rural carriers, with pay	146
Legal evidence of debt produced upon application for warrant of attachment	11
Legal proceedings to enforce payment of claim of United States	68
Letter balances—	
contracts, signed by whom	77
postal accounts to show expenditures	52
Letter boxes—	
established, when	28
expenses reported separately	29
injuring mail matter, penalty	55
mail chutes attached	117
mail collected	28
not to be placed inside buildings, except	101
penalty for injuring	28, 138
Letter-carrier routes, post-roads	39
Letter carriers—	
appointments	89
bonds	28
city service, leave of absence	96
classification	100
embezzlement of mail matter, penalty	30
employed, when	99
expenses reported separately	29
hours of service in cities	103
not to deliver lottery matter	111
penalty for assaulting	28
promotions	89, 148
rural, pay	147
salaries	100, 140
substitutes, city service	96, 141
transferred to clerks	148
uniforms	28
Letter distributors, etc.—	
salaries at first-class post-offices	108
salaries at second-class post-offices	109
Letter postage, postal accounts to show amount received	51
Letter-sheet envelopes	86
Letters—	
additional charge on advertised	36
addressed to foreign-born persons, nondelivered, advertisement	35
advertisement of foreign nondelivered	35
carried separately on mail routes, when	65
carried outside the mail, illegal, when	42, 43
compensation, advertising nondelivered	36
dead, of importance, how disposed of	37
delivered at post-office before vessels make entry	42
drop, insufficiently prepaid, disposition	36
for lotteries, etc., delivery forbidden, when	124
in "point print" or characters used by blind, transmitted at third-class rates	132
in stamped envelopes carried outside the mail	43
intercepting, penalty	31

	Page.
Letters—Continued.	
lotteries' registered, returned to sender marked "fraudulent"-----	35
nondelivered, advertising-----	35
list posted in public view-----	35, 36
on steamboats, delivery-----	40
or sealed matter, opening forbidden-----	105
postage-----	76
postage on drop-----	32
postal cards, etc., first-class matter-----	82
private express, transmission forbidden-----	42
registered lottery, postmaster forbidden to open-----	35
return request, not advertised, returned-----	37
seized for violations, returned-----	31
ship, double postage-----	32
soldiers' transmitted unpaid-----	32
transmitted without compensation-----	43
undelivery, detention-----	36
returned to Dead Letter Office-----	36
unlawfully concealed, forfeited to the United States-----	43
unpaid postage, sent to Dead Letter Office-----	36
with valuable inclosures, embezzlement by postal employees, penalty-----	55
Lewd matter, nonmailable and withdrawn from mails-----	69, 105
Liability—	
costs on failure of suit-----	3
informer in action on penal statute-----	3
on official bonds, extends to qualification of successors-----	124
postmaster for misconduct of employees-----	49
sureties for postmasters' debts cease, when-----	25
limit-----	104
on bond of married women postmasters-----	24
postmasters' bonds-----	25
Libelous matter, nonmailable and withdrawn from mails-----	105
Liens upon pay of contractors and subcontractors-----	88
Light at third-class post-offices, allowances-----	127, 149
Limit—	
contracts, carrying foreign mails-----	79
contract for carrying mails-----	38
indemnity for loss of registered matter-----	126
liability of sureties on official bonds-----	104
pay to special delivery messengers-----	98
penalty privilege, to mail matter-----	145
weight of mail matter, exceptions-----	66, 125
Limitations—	
allowance for clerk hire-----	139
establishment of post-office stations-----	125
expenditures-----	12
extension of mail routes under contract-----	89
money orders-----	117
promotions, of clerks and carriers-----	148
purchases from contingent fund-----	6
suits against postmasters-----	25
suits on accounts-----	101
Liquidated damages—	
additional cost on failure of bidder for carrying mail-----	72
failure of bidder for carrying mail to execute contract-----	64
failure to perform service, carrying mail-----	64
Lists—	
adverted matter, posting-----	36
legitimate subscribers, second-class matter-----	83
lottery drawings, unmailable-----	111
nondelivered letters posted in public view, etc-----	35
Literary societies' publications, second-class matter-----	121
Lithographing on stamped envelopes forbidden-----	33
Loan of public moneys, penalty for receiving-----	11

	Page.
Loaning—	
money-order funds, embezzlement, penalty	61
public money by postmasters, forbidden	27
using or unauthorized deposit of public moneys	6
Lock boxes in post-offices, patrons may erect	53
Locks, contracts signed by whom	77
Lodge publications, second-class matter	120
Loosening lock on mail pouch, penalty	58
Loss—	
exceeding \$10,000, claims reported to Congress, for special appropriation	126
Government funds, etc., claims of postmasters	102
registered matter, limit of indemnity	126
Lost checks, duplicates, how issued	62
Lost invalid money orders, paid by warrant	119
Lost money orders—	
certificates of postmasters	119
payment by duplicate	119
replaced	50
Lost registered mail—	
amount of indemnity	138
postal revenues not liable	34
Lottery—	
agents, postmasters not to act as	27
circulars, etc., nonmailable, penalty	70
registered letters, not to be opened by postmaster	35
Lottery matter—	
circulation by interstate commerce, etc., forbidden	124
delivery forbidden	112
unmailable	111
Lottery tickets, unmailable	111
Lotteries—	
payment of money orders forbidden, when	50, 112
postmasters not to be agents	27
registered letters, returned to sender marked "fraudulent"	35
Lower class mail matter, writing inclosed	30
Lowest bidder, award of contract for carrying the mail	37

M.

McKinley, mail matter of, Ida S., transmitted free	137
Magazines, etc., third-class mail matter	68
Mail agencies in foreign countries	47
Mail agency in China or Japan, expenses	48
Mail agents—	
in foreign ports	47
on ocean steamers, compensation	48
Mail bags—	
contracts	63
postal accounts to show expenditures	52
withdrawal from mails	145
Mail bags, keys, locks, etc.—	
contracts signed by whom	77
included in annual estimates	23
injuring, etc., penalty	58
stealing, etc., penalty	58
Mail carried—	
by land-grant roads	44
by private express, permitted when	81
by steamboat	40
on any train	44
on foreign vessels, treatment on arrival	47
Mail carriers—	
convey newspapers out of the mail	30
deserting mail, penalty	58
embezzlement of mail matter, penalty	30
liens on contractors' pay	88

	Page.
Mail carriers—Continued.	
penalty for wounding	58
receive and deposit mail matter	41
Mail chutes, part of letter boxes	117
Mail, compensation for additional service carrying	38
Mail contractors, failure to perform service, deductions	39
Mail contracts—	
annulled when illegally sublet	78
bids recorded and preserved	37
reports not to be printed, unless	123
subletting authorized when	78
void, when	88
without advertising, railroads carrying mail	37
Mail delayed at ferry, penalty	44
Mail delivered from vessels before making entry	42
Mail depredations, etc.—	
included in annual estimates	23
persons employed in detecting, names not required in estimates	23
postal accounts to show expenditures	52
Mail equipment division, chief	134
Mail examined at mailing office	82
Mail for lotteries, etc., delivery forbidden when	124
Mail, illegal carrying, penalty	41
Mail keys—	
contracts	63
delivery by contractor to unauthorized persons	59
forging, etc., penalty	59
stealing, etc., penalty	58
Mail, letters carried outside	43
Mail lettings—	
advertisement of general	88
miscellaneous contracts	116
Mail locks—	
contracts	63
postal accounts to show expenditures	52
unlawful possession, penalty	59
Mail matter—	
carriers to receive and deposit in post-offices	41
classification	29, 82
collection from street letter boxes	28
collection of postage on second-class	129
conveyance by private express, forbidden	41
directions for delivery, etc.	102
first-class, defined	29, 82
opening forbidden	105
forwarded without additional charge	37
forwarded without stamps defaced	33
fourth-class, defined	125
fraudulently obtaining	56
free registration	35
illegally carried, seized by agent of Department	43
indecent, obscene, etc., nonmailable, penalty	69, 70
injuring in letter boxes, etc., penalty	55, 138
“intended to be conveyed by mail”	56
intercepting, penalty	31
limit of weight	66, 125
lottery circulars, etc., nonmailable	70
not properly wrapped, rate of postage	29
not sent to branch office, when	29
official, transmitted free	77
payment of postage due	31
penalty for accessory to stealing	4
permissible additions to fourth-class	102
postage on second-class	97
third-class	32
to foreign countries	32
registration	35

	Page.
Mail matter—Continued.	
relative to Census, transmitted free	132
removal of stamps by postal employees, penalty	34
returned, prepayment of postage	130
returned to sender, when addressed to lottery, etc	112
return of seized or detained	31
return of undelivered	139
second-class defined	68
periodicals of State departments of agriculture	132
sent by Ida S. McKinley, conveyed free	137
stealing, etc., penalty	56
third-class, defined	68, 69
unlawful inclosures	102
unlawfully detained by postmasters	30
wrapping	29
Mail messengers—	
embezzlement of mail matter, penalty	30
salaries at first-class post-offices	108
Mail messenger service, employment authorized	100
Mail on steamboats, penalty for failure to deliver	40
Mail, provision for carrying on post roads	39
Mail received at post-offices only, carried on vessels	42
Mail retarded on account of bulk	65
Mail routes—	
contractor's pay withheld	89
establishment reported to Congress	40
extension	40, 89
letters carried separately, when	65
readvertised, when	74
report of additional, established	21
temporary service on failure of contractor	90
terminus changed	40
under contract, extension of service	89
Mail service—	
in steamships	40
ocean mail service	113
Mail, special delivery, use of ordinary stamps	149
Mail supplied, county seats	39
Mail transportation—	
contract signed by	77
electric or cable cars, rate of compensation	150
inland, weighing of mails paid from appropriation	66
Pacific railroads, compensation	9
railroad routes, reduction of compensation	148
to and from post-offices, contracts	40
transfer of contract prohibited	39
Mail vessels, ocean service, used as transports and cruisers	115
Mail with valuable inclosures, penalty for embezzlement by postal employees	55
Mailable matter—	
on foreign vessels, search for	46
transported in violation of law, searches	48
Mail-bag repair shops, leave of absence for employees	113
Mailing advertisements of fraudulent schemes, etc	109
Mailing card, private, authorized	129
Mailing clerks—	
salaries at first-class post-offices	108
salaries at second-class post-offices	109
Mailing fraudulent matter, penalty	60
Mailing, free, reports of agricultural colleges	9
Mailing matter without stamps affixed	140
Mailing office, examine second-class matter	82
Mails—	
arrival and departure, registers	26
carried on fastest trains	96
carrying, contracts limited to four years	38

	Page.
Mails—Continued.	
closed, when	26
contract for carrying, payments begin	38
report to Congress	21
delayed on railroads, penalty	145
domestic, transportation through foreign countries	44
foreign, compensation for carrying	45
contracts for carrying, limited	79
how transported	45
increasing weight to increase compensation	130
obstructing, penalty	44
of adjoining countries, transportation through United States	45
padding, penalty	130
salaries of superintendent at first-class post-offices	107
transportation by other means than railroads	44
weighed, how and when	66
Making mail key, unlawfully, penalty	59
Making, unlawfully, stamped envelopes, etc., penalty	55
Malpractice of contractors, reports by postmasters	27
Manner of carrying mails	82
Manner of keeping postal accounts	51
Auditor's report to Postmaster-General	66
prescribed by Postmaster-General	76
Manner of paying balances, directed by Postmaster-General	76
Manner of subletting mail contracts	78
Manufacture of postal cards	33
Manuscript copy, third-class matter	83
Manuscripts—	
postage on	76
third-class mail matter	68
Maps of post routes—	
contract for printing	123
sale to the public	133
Marines' letters transmitted unpaid	32, 36, 82
"Marked copy," permissible on second-class matter	101
Marks on third-class matter	102
Married women appointed postmasters, bonds	24
Marshals make returns to Auditor of proceedings on executions	4
Master of foreign vessel to deliver mail on arrival	47
Master of vessel, oath	42
Material signature on money orders, forging, etc., penalty	54
Matter excluded from public printing	123
Matters relating to Government, transmitted free	77
Meaning of "intended to be conveyed by mail"	56
Means of transporting mail, other than railroads	44
Member of Congress—	
accepting pay for procuring contract or office, penalty	9
correspondence	130
franking privilege	140
mail seeds, etc., free	67
not interested in contracts	75
send Congressional Record free by mail	67
Memorandum of allowances, etc., to have true date affixed	20
Merchandise, fourth-class matter	82
Messengers, etc.—	
salaries at first-class post-offices	108
at second-class post-offices	109
Messengers, special delivery—	
at free-delivery offices	99
compensation	98
deemed carriers	138
payment	98
Method of computing compensation of employees	146
Metric postal balances, furnished exchange offices	29
Military service of postal clerks transferred	145

	Page.
Military duty, persons exempted from-----	3
Miscellaneous duties of Postmaster-General, not connected with postal service-----	76
Miscellaneous expenditures, postal accounts to show separately-----	52
Miscellaneous fund, payments shown in estimates-----	23
Miscellaneous items, expenditures for-----	134
Miscellaneous mail lettings, contracts-----	116
Miscellaneous printed matter, third class-----	82
Miscellaneous receipts—	
disposition and accounts-----	52
postal accounts to show-----	52
Misconduct—	
of acting officer, postmaster responsible, when-----	49
of officer, recovery of payments made-----	54
oaths to witnesses in investigations-----	14
Misdemeanors—	
failure of bidder to execute contract for carrying mail-----	73
or refusal of bidder to execute contract for carrying mail-----	75
failure or refusal of contractor to carry mail-----	75
failure to collect postage due-----	85
false returns by postmasters-----	79
special-delivery business-----	99
improper sale or use of stamps, etc-----	80
improper use of penalty envelopes-----	78
franking privilege-----	132
issuing money orders on credit-----	49
mailing lottery matter-----	111
mailing or taking obscene matter, etc., from mail to circulate-----	69, 70
officer aiding in circulating obscene matter-----	128
officer or clerk receiving compensation for services in United States matters-----	10
padding the mails-----	130
political contributions-----	92
postmasters' unlawful approval of bidders' bonds, carrying mail-----	64
procuring office or contract for consideration-----	9
removing canceling marks from stamps-----	34, 85
signing false certificate of sureties' sufficiency-----	64
submitting false evidence to secure entry as second class-----	103
using stamps, etc., previously used-----	34
Mistake, payments made, recovered-----	54
Mobile, advertisement, ocean mail service-----	113
Modification of money orders after issue-----	50
Money belonging to postal service, transfer, how made-----	23
Money due Post-Office Department—	
equity proceedings-----	17
returns of marshals in suits for-----	4
Money for unpaid money orders, disposition-----	118
Money in treasury, how paid out-----	76
Money-order accounts-----	119
audited-----	121
kept separate by Auditor-----	17
what to show-----	17
Money-order applications, preserved-----	49
Money-order blanks, estimates from Public Printer, etc-----	92
Money-order business—	
clerical labor included in allowances for clerk hire-----	118
compensation to postmasters-----	51
net proceeds, part of postal revenue-----	52
postal accounts to show revenue received-----	52
postmasters' reports-----	51
Money-order clerks—	
salaries at first-class post-offices-----	108
at second-class post-offices-----	109
Money-order commissions, fourth-class post-offices-----	95
Money-order division, salaries of superintendents at first-class post-offices-----	107
Money-order exchanges, foreign-----	49

	Page.
Money-order forms, furnished.....	119
Money-order funds—	
Auditor's report of delinquencies of postmasters.....	66
claims of postmasters for loss.....	102
deposits authorized.....	62
embezzlement, penalty.....	61
exchange for other funds.....	61
failure to produce.....	61
loaning.....	61
money in United States Treasury.....	51
payments and transfers.....	50
postmasters and sureties, accountable.....	49
remittances by draft.....	62
transferred.....	51
unlawful deposit.....	61
what are.....	51
Money-order offices.....	48
allowances for clerks.....	118
application blanks supplied.....	119
bonds of postmasters.....	24
furnished printed or engraved forms.....	119
performance of duties during absence of postmaster.....	49
supplied with blank applications for money orders.....	49
Money-order service—	
blank forms, etc.....	92
estimates of expenses to Congress.....	126
international establishment, etc.....	105
proposals for blanks.....	92
Money-order statements, etc., destruction.....	121, 128
Money-order system—	
chief clerk, salary.....	18
establishment.....	48
superintendent, salary.....	18, 133
Money-order transcripts as evidence.....	14
Money orders—	
advices of orders issued, to be sent.....	50
advices of repaid, attached to accounts.....	119
altering, forging, etc., penalty.....	55, 103
amount.....	66
amount returned to remitters, in fraudulent schemes.....	112
blank applications supplied.....	49, 119
changes after issue.....	50
counterfeiting, etc., penalty domestic.....	54, 103
foreign.....	103
destruction of paid, after seven years.....	128
drawn free to correct errors.....	131
engraving, etc., penalty.....	54
fees.....	66, 117
forging, etc., penalty.....	54, 103
for lottery ticket, unavailable.....	111
identification of payee required.....	131
invalid after one year.....	118
how paid.....	65
more than one indorsement.....	65
invalid after one year—	
paid by warrant.....	118
issued at branch post-offices.....	49
by superintendent of money-order system, when.....	131
on credit, misdemeanor.....	49
limited to \$100 each.....	117
lost invalid, paid by warrant.....	119
lost, paid by duplicate.....	119
new in lieu of invalid.....	50
not payable after one year.....	50
not valid unless on special form.....	50, 119
paid, destroyed.....	121

Money orders—Continued.	Page.
passing forged or altered.....	103
payment to lotteries, etc., forbidden.....	50, 112
payment of invalid.....	121
presentation of forged or altered.....	104
repaid, but fee not returned.....	50
replacing lost order.....	50
special forms.....	50
statement of, unpaid one year.....	118
transfer by indorsement.....	65
unlawful issue.....	103
valid one year.....	50
Money or property embezzled.....	81
Money stolen from the mail, delivery to owner upon recovery.....	52, 54
Moneys expended from contingent fund, statements.....	5
Moneys of Post-Office Department covered into Treasury.....	76
N.	
Name, fictitious, etc., use in unlawful business, fraudulent schemes, etc.....	110
National banks, deposits of public moneys by postmasters.....	60
Naval service of postal clerks transferred.....	145
Neglect of carriers, etc., report by postmaster.....	27
Neglect of postmaster to render quarterly accounts.....	26
Neglect of telegraph company, payment withheld.....	60
Neglect to account for postage stamps, etc., penalty.....	53
Negligence of postmasters considered in claims for losses.....	102
New bonds accepted, approved, required, etc.....	142
New contract for carrying mail, when made.....	74
New items of expenditures in estimates, explanation required.....	8
New mail route, temporary contract.....	74
New money order in lieu of invalid.....	50
New Orleans, advertisement, ocean mail service.....	113
Newsdealers, postage on newspapers.....	32
Newspaper envelopes with stamps impressed.....	33
Newspaper postage, postal accounts to show amount received.....	51
Newspapers—	
carried out of the mail.....	30
detaining, delaying, embezzling, or destroying.....	57
lottery advertisement, unmailable.....	111
nondelivered letters advertised.....	35
permissible inclosures, writing, etc.....	69
postage on transient.....	96
postage required of news dealers.....	32
postal clerks receive and deliver packages.....	30
publisher notified of nondelivery.....	30
rate of postage.....	32, 76
second-class matter.....	82
rate of postage on subscribers' copies.....	77
transient, third-class mail matter.....	68
unclaimed, disposal.....	54
wrappers for mailing.....	30
Newspaper wrappers—	
claims of postmasters for loss.....	102
contracts.....	63, 77
sold at cost.....	71
withdrawal from mails.....	145
New sureties, contracts, carrying mail.....	38, 86
New York—	
advertisement ocean mail service.....	113
expenditures for transferring foreign mail.....	127
salaries—	
Assistant postmaster.....	106
Assistant superintendent money-order division.....	108
Assistant superintendent of registry.....	107
Auditor.....	108

New York—Continued.	Page.
salaries—continued.	
Draftsman	108
Postmaster	66
Superintendent money-order division	107
Superintendent of delivery	107
Superintendent of mails	107
Superintendent of registry	107
Superintendent of stations	108
Nixie clerks, etc., salaries at first-class post-offices	108
No allowance to officers for extra services	5
No Department or officer to accept voluntary service	142
No illustration, engraving, or photograph used unless relating to public business	141
Nondelivered foreign letters, advertising in newspapers	35
Nondelivered letters—	
additional charge for advertising	36
advertisement in local newspapers, etc	35
compensation for publishing list	36
list posted	36
Nonmailable matter—	
delivery	84
fictitious matter	110
indecent, lewd, scurrilous, defamatory, etc	105
lottery circulars, etc	70
obscene, indecent, etc., penalty	69, 70, 104
treatment at office of address	84
Nonpayment of foreign postage on certain United States matter	46
Nonpayment of lost invalid money orders, proof	120
Nonresident parties in cases of debts due from defaulting officer, attachment issued against property	10
No promotion made except on satisfactory evidence	147
Norfolk, advertisement, ocean mail service	113
Notary public—	
authorized to administer oaths	7
clerk in Department, fees	111
Notice to Auditor—	
appointment and removal of postmasters	68, 71
mail contracts sublet	78
Notice to bidders of opening bids	12
Notice to sureties, postmasters' deficiencies	81
Notices, authority for publishing	15
Notification to publisher when matter is refused	30
Notification to sender of nondelivered mail matter	131
O.	
Oaths of office—	
administered free by chief clerk	111
clerk as notary public, no fee	111
employees	96
postal employees	62
failure to take	24
who may administer	8, 63
Oaths—	
administered by officer holding United States commission	18
before whom taken	7
by sureties on bonds of bidders for carrying mail	37
masters of vessels, delivery of mail	42
of bidders for carrying mail, contents	64, 72
required of masters of vessels	42
settlement of accounts, administered by whom	17
to pensioners administered by fourth-class postmasters	122
to witness in investigations	14
when administered by officers	132
Objects specified, bought from appropriation	142
Obligation discharged by payment	101

	Page.
Obligations—	
for payments in excess of appropriations forbidden	142
of Post-Office Department to bear true date	20
of United States, advertisements in likeness of	12
penalty for placing advertisements on	12
Obscene matter—	
nonmailable and withdrawn from mails	69, 104, 105
not to be transmitted by common carrier	126
officers aiding in circulating, penalty	128
Obstructing correspondence, penalty	31
Obstructing the mails, penalty	44
Obtaining mail by fraud or deception	56, 57
Obtaining mail keys by false pretense, penalty	58
Obtaining money by false pretenses	109, 111
Ocean mail service—	
authority for establishment	113
cadets	115
commencement of service	113
compensation	114
construction of vessels	114
contracts limited to two years	38
deduction for failure	115
duration of contract	113
expenditures	127
fines for irregularities	115
number of trips	113
requirements of vessels	114
size of steamers	113
times of sailing	113
transportation, etc., postal clerks	115
uses of vessels as transports and cruisers	115
volunteers on mail vessels	115
Ocean steamers, compensation of mail agents	48
Offender against United States, proceedings by State officers against	4
Offenses against foreign mails in transit across United States	46
Offenses against United States—	
conspiring to commit	12
jurisdiction of United States circuit courts	65
Offenses charged in indictment, fraudulent schemes, etc	110
Offenses, preliminary proceedings	4
Offering fee to officer for procuring contract or office, penalty	9
Office furniture—	
included in annual estimates	23
postal accounts to show expenditures	52
Office, oath of, who may administer	8
Office of Postmaster-General	113
Office of publication, second-class matter	83
Office procured by member of Congress for consideration	9
Officers—	
accepting fee for procuring contract or office, penalty	9
acting as agent or attorney in claims against United States	7
acting, named by President, when	13
of Department	13
administer oaths	7
aiding in importation or circulation of obscene matter, penalty	128
authorized to administer oath	14
administer oath of office	8
make application for warrant of attachment	11
make searches	48
claims allowed in suits against, when	4
conducting preliminary proceedings in criminal cases	4
designated to sign warrants	116
disbursing, to pay in kind of money furnished	10
examination for appointment	91
extra compensation forbidden	63

	Page.
Officers—Continued.	
estimates for compensation authority.....	8
failing to deposit public moneys, penalty.....	8
failure to account for money received.....	16
failure to deposit postal revenues, penalty.....	53
filing false vouchers or receipts, penalty.....	7
filling vacancy, not entitled to extra compensation.....	14
forbidden to receive extra compensation.....	5
forbidden to solicit contributions.....	91
holding United States commission, may administer oath.....	18
in arrears, compensation withheld.....	4
making political contributions forbidden.....	92
may administer oath, when.....	132
not entitled to compensation, when.....	14
not to hold two offices, except.....	121
not to receive double salaries.....	7
not to solicit contributions for gifts to superior.....	15
of bureaus, acting.....	13
of Department.....	133, 143
debts due from defaulting, attachment issued, when.....	10
no fee as notary public, when.....	111
signing false certificate as to sureties.....	64
of United States not liable for costs or fees.....	3
political contributions, not compelled to make.....	91
Railway Mail Service.....	135
receiving compensation from interested persons in United States mat- ters, penalty.....	10
traveling expenses, Railway Mail Service.....	111
Official bonds, etc.—	
altering, forging, etc., to defraud United States, penalty.....	59
examination.....	123
limit of liability of sureties.....	104
renewal.....	124
Official compensation not paid from contingent fund.....	15
Official compulsion to make political contributions.....	91
Official correspondence of Members of Congress transmitted free.....	130, 140
Official envelopes—	
contracts signed by whom.....	77
for all departments, contracts.....	123
penalty for unlawful use.....	78
who may use.....	77
Official forms of papers, Auditor's report to Postmaster-General.....	66
Official matter—	
part paid, delivered free, except.....	96
registered free.....	35, 96
transported by express, etc.....	116
Official papers, forms decided by Postmaster-General.....	76
Official postal guide, contract, four years.....	124
Official, Railway Mail Service.....	145
Official seal, custody, use.....	19
Official superiors not to receive gift from subordinates.....	15
Old files of useless papers, disposition, etc.....	106, 143
Omission of postage on special-delivery letters, not to delay trans- mission.....	105
Open contracts permitted in exigencies.....	63
Opening communications for fraudulent purposes, penalty.....	60
Opening letters forbidden.....	105, 110, 112
Opening mail forbidden.....	50, 56
Opening newspapers improperly, penalty.....	57
Opening of bids—	
bidders to be notified.....	12
for carrying mail.....	37
Opening of mail by postal employee, penalty.....	30
Opening of proposals for supplies.....	120
Opening sealed matter of first class, forbidden.....	105
Open purchases, permitted, articles required immediately.....	63

	Page.
Orders—	
contracts, etc., to bear true date.....	20
in writing required, to waive allotments for appropriations.....	142
originating claims, etc., certified to Auditor.....	20
under contract not assignable.....	9
Ordinary stamps on special delivery mail.....	149
Original jurisdiction of circuit courts in postal suits.....	6, 65
Original receipt to Auditor for deposit of postal revenues.....	117
Orphans of soldiers and sailors, not dismissed, when.....	75
Outstanding appropriations, amount designated in annual estimates.....	8
Overcharges on mail matter refunded.....	141
Owner of stolen property recovered.....	54

P.

Pacific railroads, compensation for amil transportation.....	9
Packages—	
containing letters, seized and forfeited.....	43
examined.....	84
first-class rates, when.....	84
limit of weight.....	66
newspapers, postal clerks receive and deliver.....	30
Packets, delivery, on steamboats.....	40
Padding the mails, penalty.....	130
Paid money orders, destroyed.....	121
Pamphlets, etc., third-class matter.....	68
Pamphlets for the blind, transmission.....	141
Panama, mail agency.....	47
Paper distributors, etc.—	
salaries at first-class post-offices.....	108
at second-class post-offices.....	109
"Paper goods" fraud.....	109
Papers—	
indorsed with date of filing.....	20
forms of official, decided by Postmaster-General.....	76
furnished Department of Justice in suits against delinquents.....	17
sale of useless.....	106
Part-paid official matter, delivered free, except.....	96
Part-paid postage, matter forwarded.....	31
Passage of the mails, penalty for retarding.....	44
Passing altered or forged money order.....	55, 103
Patent—	
double postal cards, forbidden.....	86
letter-sheet envelopes, forbidden.....	86
Patrons may erect lock boxes in post-offices.....	53
Pay—	
carrying mails on railroads.....	61
city carriers for extra service.....	103
clerks, carriers, acting or substitute.....	149
clerks in first and second class offices.....	146
Department employees.....	18
mail contractors, lien by carrier.....	88
withheld, when.....	89
railroads additional.....	61
withheld, when.....	62
railway postal clerks on leave of absence.....	136
railway post-office cars.....	149
rural carriers.....	147
special delivery messengers.....	98
subcontractors carrying mail.....	78
substitutes for clerks and carriers.....	148
substitute rural carriers.....	146, 147
Payee—	
identification required on money order.....	131
lost money order, may secure duplicate.....	50
transfer money order by written indorsement.....	65

	Page.
Paying officer requiring voucher for amount greater than paid, penalty for-----	7
Payments—	
amount due, discharges obligation-----	101
application, after execution of new bond-----	25
auxiliary employees in post-offices-----	148
balances on judgments obtained by claimants against United States--	68
by disbursing officers made in money furnished-----	10
by postmasters, appropriations charged-----	20
claims for losses exceeding \$10,000, forbidden until-----	126
compensation to delinquent officers forbidden-----	4
debts due Post-Office Department, enforced by Auditor-----	16
from contingent fund for clerical services, forbidden-----	15
invalid money orders-----	65, 118, 121
less sum than stated in vouchers, penalty-----	7
lost invalid money orders-----	119
lost money orders, by duplicate-----	119
made on certificates of Auditor-----	53
made on fraudulent representations, mistakes, etc-----	54
miscellaneous items by postmasters-----	134
money orders to lottery, etc., schemes, forbidden, when-----	50, 112
not to be made in advance-----	3
not to exceed value of articles-----	3
of claims withheld, when claimants indebted to United States-----	68
officer assisting in prosecution of claims against United States, for bidden-----	7
of money-order funds-----	50
of postage by stamps-----	33
on contracts for carrying the mail, begin-----	38
on warrants of Postmaster-General-----	76
postage due-----	31
postage, third-class matter-----	76
postal revenues into United States Treasury-----	117
public money, ordered by Postmaster-General-----	27
rejected claims-----	97
rent of post-office boxes-----	31
salaries of postal employees by postmasters-----	96
special delivery messengers-----	138
substitute clerk or carrier-----	141
temporary employees for actual service-----	149
to incapacitated employees, forbidden-----	133
to postmasters for losses, authorized-----	102
transfer of balances due from postmasters to contractors-----	53
transferred money-order-----	65
warrant showing appropriation charged-----	24
Pecuniary ability of bidder for carrying mail-----	64, 72
Penalties and forfeitures, collection by Auditor-----	16
disposition, when recovered-----	54
Penalties—	
accepting voluntary service-----	143
accessory to robbery of the mail-----	60
stealing mail-----	4
altering, etc., bonds, records, etc., to defraud United States-----	59
altering, etc., money orders-----	55
assaulting letter carriers-----	28
assault on railway postal clerk on duty-----	138
attempting to rob the mails-----	58
breaking bulk before delivering letters-----	43
burglary of post-office, etc-----	59
carrying letters outside the mail on mail vessels-----	42
carrying mail by private express-----	41
circulating lottery matter by interstate commerce, etc-----	124
concealing stolen United States property-----	67
conspiracy-----	12
to defraud United States-----	86
to violate United States statute-----	86

Penalties—Continued.

	Page.
counterfeit-money schemes	109
counterfeiting, bids, etc., to defraud United States	59
counterfeiting, etc., foreign postage stamps	55
cutting, injuring, etc., mail bags, locks, etc.	58
delaying, destroying, etc., newspapers	57
delivery of mail locks and keys to unauthorized persons	59
deserting the mail	58
destroying letter boxes or mail matter therein	138
destroying mail by postal employees	30
detaining mail matter by postal employees	30
driver, carrying letters outside the mail	42
embezzlement by postal employees of valuable mail	56
money-order funds	61
of Government funds, etc.	81
post-office property	58
embezzling mail, etc.	57
employee of Department acting as agent for contractor	21
entering combination to prevent bidding for carrying the mail	38
failure of contractors to carry mail	75
failure of master of foreign vessel to deliver mail on arrival	47
failure to account for postage stamps, etc.	53
to account for public money	16
to collect or account, postage due	85
to comply with schedule on railroads	145
to deliver mail from steamboats	40
to deposit postal revenues	53
to deposit public moneys	8
to execute contract for carrying mail	73, 75
to provide suitable postal cars	88
false evidence to secure entry as second-class matter	141
false personation of United States officer	95
false returns by postmasters	79
special-delivery business	99
false swearing of sureties on bonds of bidders for carrying mail	73
filing false vouchers or receipts	7
forging bonds, etc., to defraud United States	59
mail key, etc.	59
money orders	55, 104
fraudulent schemes	109
green-goods schemes	109
improper collection of mails	41
improper sales of postage stamps, etc.	53
improper use of franking privilege	132
of official envelopes	78
of stamps, etc.	80
inclosing higher class in lower class matter	102
inclosing writing in lower class matter	30
increasing weight of mails unlawfully	130
injuring letter boxes	28
intercepting ordinary mail	31
issuing money orders on credit	49
loaning, using, etc., public moneys	6
lottery, etc., schemes	111
mailing indecent, etc., matter	69, 70
mailing lottery matter	70, 111
mailing obscene matter, etc.	104
mailing scurrilous, etc., matter	105
making contracts in excess of appropriations	143
making expenditures in excess of appropriations	143
making gift to superiors	15
obstructing correspondence	31
obstructing the mails	44
offering fee to officer for procuring contract or office	9
officer accepting fee for procuring contract or office	9
acting as agent in prosecution of claims against United States	7

Penalties—(Continued.	Page.
officers accepting fee for procuring contract or office—continued.	
aiding in circulating obscene matter.....	128
receiving compensation in United States matters	10
opening mail by postal employees	30
owner of vehicle carrying letters outside the mail.....	42
passing forged, etc., money orders.....	104
paying debts with postage stamps	80
payment of less sum than stated in voucher.....	7
placing advertisement on obligations of United States.....	12
pledging postage stamps.....	80
political contributions, collecting, etc	92
postal employees and others removing canceling marks.....	34
removing stamps from mail matter.....	34
using previously used stamps	34
postmaster dealing in lottery tickets.....	27
failing to render quarterly account.....	27
presenting forged, etc., money orders for payment.....	104
publishing forged bids, etc., to defraud United States.....	59
receiving articles stolen from the mails.....	57
receiving gifts from subordinates.....	15
receiving stolen United States property.....	67
receiving unauthorized deposits.....	11
receiving unlawful postage.....	31
refusal of contractor to carry mail.....	75
refusal to execute contract for carrying mail.....	75
refusing to transport mail at ferry.....	44
removing canceling marks from postage stamps.....	34, 85
robbery of the mail.....	58
scheme to defraud.....	60
sending obscene matter by express, etc.....	126
setting up post-office without authority.....	24
signing false certificate of sureties' sufficiency.....	64
soliciting contributions for gift to superiors	15
stealing, etc., mail bags, etc.....	58
submitting false evidence to secure entry as second class.....	103
taking from mails to circulate scurrilous, etc., matter.....	105
taking obscene matter from the mails to circulate.....	69, 70, 104
transmitting letters by private express.....	42
transporting persons unlawfully carrying mail.....	41
unlawful approval of bidder's bond, etc., carrying mail.....	64
unlawful detention of mail by postmasters.....	30
unlawfully issuing money orders.....	104
unlawful use of words "U. S. Mail".....	41
use of advertisements in likeness of obligations of United States.....	12
use of fictitious names, etc.....	110
using stamps with canceling marks removed.....	85
using postage stamps previously used.....	34
uttering forged bonds, etc., to defraud United States.....	59
wearing unlawfully letter-carriers' uniforms.....	28
Penalties, remitted, when	21
Penalty envelopes—	
inclosed for reply.....	97
who may use.....	77
Penalty matter, restrictions on articles admitted to mails.....	145
Penalty privilege, restrictions on articles admitted to mails.....	145
Pension roll, civil, prohibited.....	131
Pension vouchers executed before fourth-class postmasters.....	122
Per diem allowance—	
assistant superintendent, free delivery.....	131
Railway Mail Service.....	135, 139
registry system.....	135
inspectors in the field.....	136, 147
inspectors while temporarily located at one place.....	147
Performance of duties—	
during absence of postmaster at money-order offices.....	49
postmasters.....	25

	Page.
Performance of extra services without additional compensation	5
Performance of service—	
by contractor carrying mail, penalty for failure	73, 89
carrying mail, condition of bidder's bond	64
Period of detention of seized mail matter	43
Periodicals—	
of institutions of learning, etc., second-class matter	120
of State departments of agriculture, second-class matter	132
postage on transient	96
postage required of newsdealers	32
publishers notified of nondelivery	30
rate of postage	76, 77
second-class matter	82
unclaimed, regulations for disposal	54
Perjury, defined, false swearing of sureties on bonds of bidders for carrying mail	73
Permanent appropriations	15
Permissible additions—	
on third-class matter	102
to fourth-class matter	102
Permissible inclosures in newspapers	69
Permissible writing, etc., on second-class matter	69, 101
Perquisites—	
beyond salary, forbidden	63
postal employees not to receive, from public	27
Personal correspondence forbidden in third and fourth class matter	102
Personal service—	
in excess of appropriations, forbidden	142
of postmasters, salaries, full compensation	118
Persons—	
employed in detecting mail depredations, names not required in estimates	23
having in custody the mail, deemed carriers	138
incapacitated, not employed in postal service	136
transporting mail, exempted from militia duty	3
unlawfully conveying mail, transportation forbidden	41
Philadelphia—	
advertisement, ocean mail service	113
Photographs in public documents	141
Pictures of living persons not permitted on postal currency	11
Place of delivery by contractors for supplies	120
Plank roads, contract for carrying mails	39
Plank roads, post-roads	39
Plants, seeds, bulbs, etc., rate of postage	104
Pledging postage stamps, etc., penalty	53
"Point print" or raised characters used by the blind, transmitted as third-class matter	132
Political contributions—	
employees not compelled to make	91
penalty for collecting	92
soliciting by Government employees forbidden	91
to officers, forbidden	92
Population necessary for free-delivery service	99
Porters, etc.—	
salaries at first-class post-offices	108
salaries at second-class post-offices	109
Portland, advertisement, ocean mail service	113
Portraits on postal currency, restrictions	11
Possession of counterfeit stamps, etc., penalty	55
Possession of embezzled property, penalty	67
Postage—	
collection on second-class matter	129
Congressional Record, transient	65
correspondence by members of Congress	130
demanding unlawful rate, penalty	31
double on ship letters	32

	Page.
Postage—Continued.	
double rates, collected, when	31
drop letters	32, 98
insufficiently prepaid	36
due, collection	31, 85
failure to collect or account for	85
on special-delivery letters, collection	105
stamps	85
foreign mail	32
fourth-class matter	84
free Congressional Record mailed by Members of Congress	67
seeds, etc., mailed by Members of Congress, etc	67
identical pieces, third and fourth class matter	140
in excess of lawful rate, may be refunded	141
newspapers sent by newsdealers	32
on letters	76
on matter containing unlawful inclosures	102
on newspapers	32
on packages	84
on postal cards in foreign mails	87
on printed matter	77
on second-class matter	85, 97
on special-delivery letters	105
on third-class matter	76
on undelivered mail, prepaid before remailing, when	139
paid by stamps attached	33
paid to foreign vessels carrying mail	47
part paid, matter forwarded	31
prepaid	31
on returned mail matter	130
rating up	29
retaliatory, on certain foreign matter, when imposed	46
seeds, bulbs, plants, etc	104
stamps, claims of postmasters for loss	102
contracts signed by whom, etc	63, 77
defaced	33
denominations	33
failure to account for, penalty	53
forging, etc., penalty	55
furnished to postmasters for sale	33
improvements	33
included in annual estimates	23
payment of debts, penalty	80
pledging, hypothecating, etc., penalty	53
postal accounts to show expenditures	52
revenue received	51
postal employees using previously used, penalty	34
previously used, penalty for use	34
purchase of merchandise, penalty	80
sold at face value only	80
third-class matter	32
unpaid on foreign mails, collected	32
on letters sent to Dead-Letter Office	36
Postal accounts—	
and vouchers preserved by Auditor	65
audited and preserved	65, 121
closed quarterly by Auditor	65
not revised after payment	122
Postal agency—	
Shanghai, China	48
Yokohama, Japan	48
Postal business and agencies in foreign countries, report to Congress	22
Postal-car service—	
changes reported	81
separate item in annual estimates	81

	Page.
Postal cars—	
equipment	88
equipped, etc., by railroad companies	82
penalty for violent entry	138
Postal cards—	
addresses	71
bearing indecent matter, etc., not mailable, penalty	69, 70
claims of postmasters for loss	102
contracts	63, 77
counterfeiting, etc., penalty	55
delivery by contractor	120
double	86
first-class matter	82
in foreign mails	87
manufacture	33
postal employees using previously used, penalty	34
rates of postage	33, 82
regulations	33
rules for using	33
secreting, penalty	31
sold for cash and at face value only	80
transmission through mails	33
use	33
withdrawn during weighing season	145
Postal clerks—	
appointment	48
classification	89, 150, 115
deposit and receipt of mail	41
designation	89
free transportation	125, 127
leave of absence with pay	136
ocean mail service, transportation, etc	115
penalty for assaulting	138
preference in transfer	145
receive and deliver packages of newspapers	30
residence	123
salaries	89, 150, 151
substitute for absent	141
traveling expenses	116
uniform	81
Postal conventions—	
arrangements for money-order exchanges	49
copy for Public Printer	13
copy revised by Post-Office Department	13
copy sent to Secretary of State	13
international money-order service	105
printed	13
Secretary of State furnished copy	19
with foreign countries	19
Postal currency not to bear portrait of living person	11
Postal employees—	
classification	90
detaining newspapers, etc	57
embezzlement or destruction of valuable mail, penalty	55
forbidden to use stamps previously used	34
instructed by Postmaster-General	76
not exempt from penalties, etc., for failure to take oath	24
oath of office	62
removal of stamps from mail matter, penalty	34
weigh mails	66
Postal expenditures, Auditor's statement	66
Postal expenses paid from postal revenues	53
Postal finance, bond of superintendent	133
Postal funds—	
claims of postmasters for loss	102
depositories to keep separate accounts	6

	Page.
Postal funds—Continued.	
reports of, by depositaries to Post-Office Department	6
safe-keeping by postmasters	27
transferred to money-order funds	51
transferred when, by whom	23
Postal guide, contract four years	124
Postal laws—	
executed by Postmaster-General	76
fines, penalties, etc., for violations, how disposed of	54
jurisdiction of circuit courts in suits under	6
district courts in suits under	6
suits under, brought in name of United States	23
Postal receipts—	
Auditor's statement	66
deduction of salaries and expenses at post-offices	27
how ascertained	94
Postal revenues—	
appropriated for postal expenditures	53
brought into Treasury by warrant	20
charge on advertised letters	36
deposits by postmasters	27
not liable for lost registered matter	34
paid into Treasury	20, 117
payments by postmasters	96
penalty, failure to deposit	53
transferred to money-order account	51
Postal routes, temporary service	90
Postal service—	
accounts to show sources of revenue	51
employees, estimates for appropriations	23
expenses, Auditor's report	17
Postal suits—	
brought in name of United States	23
continuances, judgments, etc	4
reports of proceedings	23
tried in State courts	24
warrant of attachment, when issued	10
Postal supplies, withdrawn from mail during weighing period	145
Postal treaties with foreign countries	19
Postal Union, postage to foreign countries not in	32
Post cards, authorized	129
Posting list of advertised matter	36
Posting of lists of nondelivered letters	35
Postmarking stamps, etc., postal accounts to show expenditures	52
Postmaster-General—	
accept new sureties on mail contracts	38
acting, who may be	13
adopt improvements in stamps and stamped envelopes	33
allow credit for certain losses	102
alter distribution of clerks	7
annual estimates for appropriations	23
annual reports of financial condition of Department	71
to Congress	21
appointment Assistant Attorney-General	18
certain postmasters	71
chief clerks, Railway Mail Service	135
General Superintendent of Railway Mail Service	135
inspectors	144
postmasters	68
appointment	18
approve bonds of disbursing officers	8
bonds of inspectors	47
authorize delivery of mail locks and keys	59
publication of advertisements, etc	15
sale of post-route maps	133
subletting mail contracts	78

	Page.
Postmaster-General—Continued.	
balances on postal accounts certified by Auditor	65
cause all reports to Congress to be printed	22
issuance of duplicate for lost money order	50
mail to be carried by steamboat	40
suit for recovery of wrong payments, etc.	54
classify and fix salaries of clerks in post-offices	106, 108
consent to compromises, etc.	21
contract for free-delivery supplies	109
ocean mail service	113
without advertising, carrying mail on railroads	37
control expenditures	76
copy of postal conventions to be furnished Public Printer by	13
countersign postmasters' commissions	63
decide what trains shall carry mails	82
deduct pay for failure to perform service, carrying mail	39
deliver to owner stolen property recovered	54
designate amount of bidder's bond, carrying mail	64
amount of outstanding appropriations in annual estimates	8
clerks to sign warrants in his stead	147
distributing offices	68
officer to sign warrants	116
superintendent, free delivery	60
direct manner of paying balances	76
purchases from contingent fund	6
discontinue post-offices	76
duties, not connected with postal service	76
employ special agents (inspectors)	47
enforce prompt accounting	76
establish international money-order service	105
money-order system	48
ocean mail service	113
post-offices	24, 76
execute postal laws	76
explain new items of expenditures in estimates	8
extend contracts for carrying mail	72
mail routes	40
fix bond of superintendent of postal finance	133
compensation, false returns	79
special-delivery business	99
rates when Congress fails, railroad routes	44
telegraph rates	60
forbid delivery lottery matter	112
payment of money orders to lotteries, etc., when	112
furnish annual estimates to Secretary of Treasury	133
forms for money orders	50
stamps and stamped envelopes to postmasters	33
give details in communicating estimates	5
have mails weighed	66
head of Post-Office Department	18
instruct postal employees	76
issue "fictitious" order	110
warrants to cover money into Treasury and pay out same	76
make allowances for clerical services at separating offices	68
contracts for carrying mail on steamships	40
new contract for carrying mail in case of failing bidder	73
for carrying mail in case of failing contractor	74
temporary contract for carrying mail	74
negotiate postal conventions	19
not bound to consider bid of former failing contractor	38
not to dismiss soldiers, etc., when	75
not to receive compensation from any person for services in United States matters	10
oath of office	62
office of	143
official papers, forms	76

	Page.
Postmaster-General—Continued.	
pay expenses of postal clerks at sea	136
expenses of weighing mails	66
prepare postage stamps	33
prescribe manner of keeping accounts	76
proof of indorsement on money orders	65
regulations	75
for free mailing of Congressional Record	67
for free mailing of seeds, etc.	67
for return of lottery, etc., registered mail	112
time and form of depositaries' reports	6
money-order applications preserved	49
promote clerks in post-offices	109
provided for carrying mail on post-roads	39
for separate carriage of letter mail, when	65
stamped envelopes	33
readjust compensation to railroads carrying mails	61, 70
recommend compensations to railroads	82
reduce rate of postage, foreign mails	32
remit payment of additional postage on unlawful inclosures	102
removal	18
remove postmasters	68, 71
report employees' efficiency	111
reports, required of Auditor	66
to Congress annually, estimates of revenues and expenditures	146
claims for losses	103
useless papers	106
salary	18
send copy of postal conventions to Secretary of State	13
superintend Department business	76
disposal of Department funds	76
term of office	18
transfer money-order funds by warrant	50, 51
postal funds	23
who may be acting	150
Postmasters—	
accountable for money-order funds at stations	49
receipts at post-offices	52
revenues accrued, whether collected or not	52
stamps and stamped envelopes	33
accounts audited	121
of special-delivery business, adjusted by Auditor	90
preserved two years	54
rendered quarterly	26
sworn to	26
acting, compensation	86
allowance for clerk hire at separating offices	68
special delivery of mail	98
appointment and removal	68, 71
approve sureties on bond of bidders for carrying mail	64
attach to accounts, advices of repaid money orders	119
Auditor's report of delinquencies to Postmaster-General	66
disbursements	17
balances due, evidence in suits	14
transferred to contractors in payment	53
bonds approved	77, 117
conditions, etc.	24
renewal	25, 142
certificates, lost money orders	119
classified	71
commissions issued	63
compensation	92, 93, 94
foreign money-order exchanges	49
for money-order business	51
debts due from defaulting, attachment issued, when	10
defacing of postage stamps	33

Postmasters—Continued.

Page.

deficiencies in accounts reported, etc.....	81
delinquency, certified copies of accounts as evidence.....	14
deliver records to successors.....	26
delivery of fictitious matter.....	110
deposit money-order funds.....	62
postal revenues.....	27
public moneys in national banks.....	60
designated as disbursing officers.....	96
duties.....	25
performed during absence.....	49
embezzlement money-order funds.....	61
examine mail matter.....	29
exempted from militia duty.....	3
expiration of commission.....	25
failure to deface stamps reported.....	34
false returns.....	79
special-delivery business.....	99
fictitious addresses, etc., identification.....	110
forbidden to open registered lottery letters.....	35
fourth-class, oath to pensioners.....	122
furnished stamped envelopes and stamps, by whom.....	33
general authority for expenditures.....	127
increase of salary.....	28
instructed not to deliver fraudulent matter, etc., when.....	112
interest on deposits, not to receive.....	60
issue money orders at stations.....	49
issuing money orders unlawfully.....	104
keep office open, etc.....	25
liability on official bonds.....	124
mail copyright articles.....	15
married women, bonds.....	24
money-order accounts.....	119
monthly statements unpaid money orders one year old.....	118
neglect to render accounts, penalty.....	26
New York, N. Y., salary.....	66
notify publisher when patron refuses publication.....	30
not to act as lottery agents.....	27
not to be contractors, etc.....	27
not to deliver lottery matter.....	111
not to retain more than compensation.....	27
papers in suits against delinquent.....	17
pay for miscellaneous items.....	134
payments after new bond, how applied.....	25
charged to appropriations.....	20
of transferred money orders.....	65
penalty for failure to deposit postal revenues.....	53
failure to render quarterly account.....	27
post list of nondelivered letters.....	36
preserve money-order applications.....	49
presidential, term of office, four years.....	71
quarterly accounts, affidavit required.....	79
quarterly returns as evidence.....	14
quarterly return of accounts.....	26
receipt for copyright articles.....	15
records to be preserved.....	26
refund excess postage collected.....	141
removal.....	68, 71
remove wrappers to examine mail matter.....	29
repay money orders.....	50
report delinquencies of contractors, etc.....	27
reports of money-order business.....	51
report quarterly to Postmaster-General, deposits of public moneys.....	60
require identification of payees of money orders.....	131
reside within delivery of office.....	24
responsible for immediate delivery of special delivery matter.....	98
public property.....	25

	Page.
Postmasters—Continued.	
return to sender, mail addressed to lottery, etc., when	112
salaries	92, 94
full compensation	118
readjusted	95
search for matter improperly rated	29
send advice of money orders issued	50
signing false certificate as to sureties	64
successors appointed, etc	25
suits on bonds, limited to three years	25
unlawful approval of bond of bidder for carrying mail	64
unlawful detention of mail, penalty	30
use of public money, forbidden	27
vacancies in office	25
vouchers submitted to Auditor	28
when claims allowed in suits against	4
Post-office boxes, payment of rent	31
Post-office building—	
burglary, etc., penalty	59
unfit for use, rent ceases	97
Post-office clerks—	
bonds	130
promoted by Postmaster-General	109
Post-office Department—	
collection of debts due, superintended by Auditor	16
expenses controlled by Postmaster-General	76
financial condition	71
officers	133
report of depositaries to	6
copy of postal conventions	13
Post-office inspectors—	
advances for expenses	53
designation	87
expenses not covered by per diem	146
in charge	137
number	137, 150
per diem, in the field	147
located on duty away from home	136
salary	150
statements as evidence	14
without per diem	137
Post-offices—	
advanced to higher class	95
at county seats not to be discontinued	125
branch offices established	29
issue of money orders	49
burglary, etc., penalty	59
classification and salaries of clerks	106, 108
clerk's leave of absence	113
contracts for carrying mail to and from	40
detail of clerks	97
discontinued	28, 76
established by whom	24, 76
inspectors in charge, when	25
opened, when	25
patrons may erect lock boxes and drawers	53
penalty for using sign without authority	24
postmasters accountable for receipts	52
power of Congress to establish	3
promotion of clerks	109
records of supplies and money received and disbursed	26
sell stamps and stamped envelopes	33
vacancies as postmasters promptly filled	25
Post-office stations—	
establishment, limitations	125
issue of money orders	49

	Page.
Post-roads—	
change of terminus.....	40
established.....	39
power of Congress to establish.....	3
provisions for carrying mail.....	39
Post-route maps—	
contract for printing.....	123
sale to public.....	133
Post routes—	
defined.....	95
discontinuance, service.....	40
Pouch, mail, injuring, etc., penalty.....	58
Powers of telegraph companies, restrictions.....	12
Preference—	
in transfer from Railway Mail Service.....	145
of soldiers and sailors for appointment.....	11
to domestic productions, in purchasing supplies.....	140
to ex-soldiers and ex-sailors, departmental service.....	91
to Government in mail transportation on land-grant railroads.....	9
Preliminary proceedings in criminal cases.....	4
Prepaid letters, forwarded without additional charge.....	37
Prepaid rate of postage on newspapers.....	76
Prepayment of postage.....	31
fourth-class matter.....	84
on returned matter.....	130, 139
sender notified when.....	131
third-class matter.....	76
Prepayment of—	
registry fees.....	35
second-class postage.....	96
Presenting forged, etc., bonds, to defraud United States, penalty.....	59
Presents to official superiors.....	15
Preservation—	
of bids for carrying mail.....	37
of Department records, etc., regulations for.....	75
of postmasters' accounts and vouchers.....	54
President—	
annual contracts unlawfully procured.....	9
appoint and remove certain postmasters.....	68
Auditor for Post-Office Department.....	65
certain postmasters.....	71
authorize advances to disbursing officers.....	3
name acting officers, when.....	13
quarterly report by heads of departments.....	129
report of classification of postal employees.....	90
sign commissions of certain postmasters.....	63
Presidential postmasters, term of office, four years.....	71
Pressmen, etc., salaries at first-class post-offices.....	108
Prevention of conception, matter relating to, not mailable, penalty.....	69, 104
Previously used postage stamps, penalty for use.....	34
Price to public of post-route maps.....	133
Printed address on postal cards.....	71
Printed forms for money orders.....	50, 119
Printed matter—	
defined.....	84
on envelopes furnished by Government.....	123
postage on.....	77
unclaimed in post-offices, regulations for disposal.....	54
Printed proof of postal conventions revised at Post-Office Department.....	19
Printer, Public, copy of postal conventions to be furnished.....	13
Printers, salaries at first-class post-offices.....	108
Printing—	
annual reports.....	123
books for Departments, restriction on illustration.....	141
books or documents, authority.....	142
estimates.....	16

	Page.
Printing—Continued.	
inclosed in lower class matter	102
mail contracts	123
not to be in excess of appropriation	123
on second-class matter, what permissible	101
on stamped envelopes, forbidden	33
postal conventions	13
public, done only when authorized by law	123
reports to Congress	127
special requisition	123
to be done at Government Printing Office	13
unlawfully, postage stamps, etc., penalty	55
upon vessels, vehicles, etc., "United States Mail"	41
written requisition	16
Priority of Government telegrams on certain lines	60
Private express—	
carrying mail forbidden	41, 81
permitted, when	81
letters transmitted by, forbidden	42
Private mailing cards, authorized	129
Private secretary to Postmaster-General	133, 143
Privileges of telegraph companies, restrictions	12
Prize lists, unmailable	111
Prize schemes matter unmailable	111
Proceedings—	
in equity for money due Post-Office Department	17
in postal suits, reports of	23
on failures of bidder or contractor for carrying mail	72
to enforce forfeiture, mail unlawfully concealed	43
United States interested, penalty for officer receiving compensation for services	10
where indebtedness of claimant to United States is denied	68
Proceeds—	
from money-order business, part of postal revenue	52
of sale of post-route maps	133
of useless papers	106
of dead letters, disposition	37
of stolen property recovered, delivery to owner	54
Procuring abortion, letters, etc. concerning	104
Procuring contract for consideration, penalty	9
Procuring office for consideration, penalty	9
Professional societies' publications, second-class matter	121
Progress of mail retarded, remedy	65
Prohibition of civil pension roll	131
Promoting fraudulent schemes, etc., use of fictitious names	110
Promotions—	
made by Department, evidence	147
of city carriers	89
of clerks and carriers, limitations	148
of clerks in post-offices	109, 147
railway postal clerks	151
Promptness, delivery of letters from steamboats	40
Proof of nonpayment, lost invalid money orders	120
Property in Post-Office Department, record and report	19
Property of Department—	
regulations for use, etc.	75
stealing, embezzlement, etc.	58
Property of parties, being removed, attachment issued	11
Property of United States, embezzlement, etc.	67
Property stolen from the mail, delivery to owner upon recovery	54
Proposals—	
altering, forging, etc., to defraud United States: penalty	59
and contracts, furnished separately to purchasing agent	140
authority for publishing	15
carrying mails between United States and foreign countries	45
bond required	64
destroyed, when	130

Proposals—Continued.	Page.
carrying mails between United States and foreign countries—con.	
domestic water routes-----	79
not considered without guarantee-----	72
opening, etc-----	37
record, kept in Post-Office Department-----	130
to have written guarantee-----	72
withdrawn, when-----	37
without bond, not considered-----	64
contracts for carrying mail-----	116
domestic water routes, old service-----	79
furnishing money-order blanks, etc-----	92
ocean mail service-----	113
sale of useless papers-----	106
supplies, etc., advertising-----	63, 120
without bonds not considered, carrying mail-----	64
Proposed expenditures, law authorizing, cited in estimates-----	5
Prosecutions for failure of bidder to execute contract for carrying mail,	
what constitutes evidence-----	75
for failure of contractor to carry mail, what constitutes evidence-----	75
for money due Post-Office Department, directed by Department of	
Justice-----	17
lottery, etc., schemes-----	112
in State courts, for violation of postal laws-----	24
of claims against United States, penalty for officer acting as attorney-	
of contractors or postmasters, certified copies of accounts as evidence-	14
Protection—	
to foreign mails in transit across United States-----	46
to officers making seizures for violating postal laws-----	43
Provisions—	
for carrying mail on post roads-----	39
for rural postal stations-----	138
for substitutes for clerks and carriers-----	148
relating to per diem of post-office inspectors-----	132
Public advertisement, evidence of agency in lottery, etc., schemes-----	112
Public buildings—	
letter boxes placed therein-----	101
political contributions forbidden-----	91
Public documents mailed free, by whom-----	122
Public moneys—	
agents disbursing, give bonds-----	8
loaning, using, or unauthorized deposit-----	6
not to be loaned-----	27
penalty for failure to deposit-----	8
penalty for receiving unauthorized deposits-----	11
to be safely kept-----	27
Public offices, political contributions forbidden-----	91
Public Printer—	
copy of postal conventions to be furnished-----	13
estimate for money-order blanks-----	92
to print postal conventions-----	13
Public printing done when authorized by law-----	123
Public records, etc., altering, forging, etc., to defraud United States,	
penalty-----	59
Public roads, post routes-----	95
Publication—	
of advertisements, authority-----	15
of nondelivered letters, frequency-----	35
Publication, postal conventions-----	19
Publications—	
certain second-class mail matter-----	68
third-class mail matter-----	68
of fraternal societies, etc., second-class matter-----	120
postage on second-class-----	97
violating any copyright-----	83

Publishers—Continued.	Page.
notified when matter is refused.....	30
of unclaimed printed matter may pay postage due.....	54
Publishing—	
altered, etc., records, etc., to defraud United States, penalty.....	59
forged or altered money order.....	55, 103
list of nondelivered letters, compensation.....	36
Punishment for depredations on foreign mails in transit across United States.....	46
Purchases—	
from contingent fund.....	6
not made unless authorized by law.....	8
of money-order blanks, etc.....	92
of postal supplies by purchasing agent.....	139
of supplies, made by advertising.....	63
Purchasing agent—	
appointment, bond, duties, etc.....	139
give preference to domestic productions.....	140
make purchases.....	140
Post-Office Department.....	143
salary.....	139
Purchasing supplies by purchasing agent.....	140
Purloining mail bags, mail keys, etc., penalty.....	58

Q.

Qualifications of sureties on bonds of bidders for carrying mail.....	73
Quarterly accounts of postmasters, affidavit required.....	26, 79
Quarterly report—	
Postmaster-General to President.....	129
postmasters' disbursements.....	17
Quarterly return of postmasters' accounts.....	26
Quarterly returns of postal receipts.....	94
Quarterly returns of postmasters as evidence.....	14
Quarterly settlements of postal accounts.....	66
Quarterly statement by Auditor, postmasters' payments.....	20

R.

Railroad companies equip postal cars.....	82
Railroad routes—	
classified.....	44
weighing mails.....	66
Railroad stations, letter boxes placed therein.....	101
Railroads—	
additional pay.....	61
carrying mail, reduction of compensation.....	70
compensation for carrying mails reduced.....	80, 96
comply with contract schedule.....	145
contracts for carrying mail, without advertising.....	37
failure to provide suitable cars.....	88
furnish Department data of operation.....	82
land grant, compensation for carrying mail.....	71
Pacific, compensation for mail transportation.....	9
payments withheld, when.....	62
post-roads.....	39
Railway adjustment, superintendent.....	134
Railway company to carry mail on any train.....	44
Railway mail clerks—	
preference in transfer.....	145
residence.....	123
Railway Mail Service—	
acting or substitute clerks, pay.....	149
appointment of postal clerks.....	48
assistant general superintendent.....	144

	Page.
Railway Mail Service—Continued.	
assistant superintendents, authorized	128
cars equipped by railroads	82
chief clerk	135
classification of clerks	89, 150, 151
expenses of assistant superintendents	139
general superintendent	135, 144
expenses	88
officers	134, 135
pay of acting or substitute clerks	149
salaries	145, 150, 151
substitute for absent clerk	141
traveling expenses of officers	111, 116
Railway postal clerks—	
classification	89, 150, 151
free transportation	125
promotion	151
receive and deliver packages of newspapers	30
salaries	89, 150, 151
Railway post-office cars, additional pay	61
Railway post-office lines, additional pay	149
Raters of third and fourth class mail, etc., salaries at first-class post-offices	108
Rates—	
for advertising	80
for carrying mail fixed by Congress	44
for transporting mail by other means than railroads	44
of additional pay for railway post-office lines	149
of compensation, Department employees, fixed by appropriations	90
electric or cable-car service	150
transportation on Pacific railroads	9
on railroad routes	148
to land-grant roads	71
to railroads, readjusted	61
of exchange, foreign money-order	43
of Government telegrams, fixed by Postmaster-General	60
of interest recovered on balances due Post-Office Department	4
of pay, railway post-office cars	61
temporary employees in postal service	149
temporary mail service	90
Rates of postage—	
between the United States and foreign countries	19
charged on inclosed matter	82
drop letters	32
first-class matter	98
fourth-class matter	84
mail matter not properly wrapped	20
newspapers	32, 76
postal cards	33, 82
printed matter	77
second-class matter	85, 96, 97
seeds, bulbs, plants, etc.	104
third-class matter	32, 83
to foreign countries not in Postal Union	32
Rates on postal cards in foreign mails	87
Rating postage on packages, etc.	29, 84
Reading matter for the blind	141
Readjustment, compensation to railroads	61, 70
Readjustment, postmasters' salaries, effective when	95
Readvertisement of mail routes	72
Reasons to accompany estimates for new items	8
Receipts—	
at post-offices, postmasters accountable	52
for amount greater than paid, penalty for filing	7
for postal revenues deposited	117
for registered matter, as evidence	35
given by addressee	35

	Page.
Receipts—Continued.	
from postmaster for copyright articles mailed	15
of mail by postal employees	41
of postal service, Auditor's statement	66
reported to Congress	146
penalty for filing false	7
postmasters to keep records	26
Receiving—	
articles stolen from the mails, penalty	57
boxes, expenses, reported separately	29
compensation for services in United States matters by officer	10
contributions, forbidden, when	91
fee, member of Congress, for services on pending matter, penalty	9
stolen United States property, penalty	67
unlawful postage, penalty	31
Reclamation of proceeds of dead letters	37
Recommendations to Congress, compensation to railroads	82
Record and report of Department property	19
Record clerks, etc., salaries at first-class post-offices	108
Record of bids—	
for carrying the mail	37
kept by purchasing agent	140
made	12
Records—	
of post-offices, examined by inspector	26
receipts and disbursements of money and supplies	26
proposals, kept in Post-Office Department	130
purchasing agent, open for inspection	140
special-delivery mail, kept	98, 138
valuable inclosures in dead letters	37
Recovery—	
of additional cost on failure of bidder or contractor, carrying mail	72
of fraudulent payments	54
of interest in suits for balances due	4
of penalties and forfeitures	54
Redemption division, chief	134
Redemption of United States currency, registration free	36
Reduction—	
of clerks by Post-Office Department	147
of compensation to railroads carrying mail	70, 80, 88, 96
of postage rates between the United States and foreign countries	19
Reexamination—	
of postal accounts directed by Secretary of Treasury	122
of rejected claims	97
Refund, overcharges on mail matter	141
Refusal of contractor to carry mail, penalty	75
Refusal of telegraph company to comply with law	60
Refusal—	
to account for postage stamps, etc., penalty	53
to execute contract for carrying mail, penalty	73, 75
to transport mail at ferry, penalty	44
Refused periodicals, publishers notified	30
Registered letters—	
addressed to lottery, etc., disposition	112
postal accounts to show revenue received	51
to lotteries, returned to sender marked "fraudulent"	35
Registered lottery letters, postmaster forbidden to open	35
Registered mail	35
addressee to give receipt	35
amount of indemnity for lost	138
fees	35
indemnity for loss	126
Lost, postal revenues not liable	34
Registered official matter, free	96
Registered package envelopes, contracts signed by whom	77
Registers, arrival and departure of mails	26, 130

	Page.
Registration free—	
Census mail matter	132
official matter	96
United States currency for redemption	36
Registration of mail matter	35
Registry clerks, etc.—	
salaries at first-class post-offices	108
salaries at second-class post-offices	109
Registry system—	
establishment	34
expenses of assistant superintendents	135
salaries of superintendents, etc., at first-class post-offices	107
superintendent	134
Regular leave of employee not affected by sick leave	131
Regularity of issue, second-class matter	83
Regulations—	
affecting postal accounts, certified to Auditor	20
disposal of unclaimed printed matter	54
employment and payment of substitute clerk or carrier	141
foreign money-order exchange	49
free mailing of Congressional Record	67
of seeds, etc.	67
international money-order service	105
per diem of post-office inspectors in the field	136, 147
postal cards	33
prescribed by Postmaster-General	75
return of lottery money-order remittance	112
special-delivery service	99
undelivered letters returned to Dead-Letter Office	36
use of ordinary stamps in special delivery	149
Rejected claims, not reexamined or paid	97
Rejected proposals for carrying mail, when	130
Rejection of proposals	120
Release—	
from suretyship and approval of new bond	142
claim by United States, when	21
of existing surety on mail contracts	38
of judgment debtors, no bar to subsequent execution	21
of sureties, and renewal of postmasters' bonds	142
contract, carrying mail	86
of postmasters	25
Remission, penalty, etc., when	21
Remittances—	
by money order to lotteries, etc., returned, when	112
money-order funds	62
of funds, credit for lost	103
Remitters—	
of lost money orders, secure duplicates	50
of money orders, repayment	50
of money orders to lotteries, etc., amount returned	112
repayment of money orders to lotteries, etc.	50
Removal—	
of Assistant Postmasters-General	76
of canceling marks from stamps, penalty	34, 85
of criminal cases	4
of postmasters	68, 71
bond delivered to Auditor	24
of Postmaster-General	18
of property, cause for issuance of attachment	11
of stamps from mail matter by postal employees	34
Rendering accounts of public money, penalty for failure	16
Rendering services in United States matters, penalty for officer receiving compensation	10
Rendition of returns of accounts, enforced by Postmaster-General	76

	Page.
Renewal—	
of details of clerks.....	125
of official bonds.....	124
of postmasters' bonds.....	25, 142
Rent—	
allowances at third-class post-offices.....	149
at third-class post-offices, limitation.....	127
light and fuel for post-offices, included in annual estimates.....	23
postal accounts to show expenditures.....	52
of lock boxes erected by patrons.....	53
of post-office boxes.....	31
of post-office buildings, under lease.....	97
Repaid money orders, advices to be attached to accounts.....	119
Repayment to remitters, money orders to lotteries, etc.....	50
Replacing lost money orders.....	50
Reports—	
agricultural experiment stations, mailed free.....	100
annual, printing of.....	123
arrival and departure of mails, how made.....	26
Auditor's disbursements by postmasters.....	17
carriers' expenses, etc., separate.....	29
changes in postal-car service.....	81
delinquent contractors, etc., by postmaster.....	27
of Agricultural Department, mailed free.....	67
of Auditor to Postmaster-General.....	66
of certain agricultural colleges, transmitted free.....	9
of condition of business in department.....	129
of contingent fund.....	5
of Department property.....	19
of depositaries to Post-Office Department.....	6
of deposits quarterly, postmaster to Postmaster-General.....	60
of failure to deface stamps.....	34
of mail contracts, not to be printed, unless.....	123
of money-order business.....	51
of proceedings in postal suits.....	23
of unmailable matter.....	84
on officers in arrears.....	4
Postmaster-General to Congress.....	21
quarterly to President by heads of Departments.....	129
restriction on illustration.....	141
sale of useless property.....	19
to Congress, allotments of appropriations waived.....	142
claims for losses.....	103, 126
contracts for carrying foreign mails.....	22
curtailments of expenses.....	22
efficiency of employees.....	111
expenditures from contingent fund.....	22
extra allowances to contractors, carrying the mail.....	22
finances of Department.....	22
finances of postal service.....	127
financial condition of Department.....	71
fines and deductions from mail contractors.....	22
mail routes established.....	40
not printed, when.....	123
postal business in foreign countries.....	22
postal expenditures.....	127
printed.....	22, 127
proceeds from sales of useless papers.....	106
revenues and expenditures for current and ensuing fiscal years.....	146
useless papers.....	106
when made.....	62
to Postmaster-General, postmasters' deficiencies.....	81
Representatives not to receive compensation for services in United States matters.....	10

	Page.
Requirements—	
for deposit of public moneys, penalty for failure to follow	8
for transmission of books for blind	141
of bond of clerks in post-offices	130
of mail transportation on land-grant railroads	9
Requiring employee to receipt for sum greater than paid, penalty	7
Requisitions—	
for printing and binding	16
for printing books by heads of Departments	141
special, for printing	123
Residence—	
of postal clerks	123
of postmaster within delivery of office	24
Resident mail agencies, Panama and other foreign countries	47
Resignation—	
of postmaster, bond delivered to Auditor	24
of Postmaster-General, duties performed by whom	13
Responsibility—	
of bondsmen	142
of guarantors of bidder for carrying mail	72
of postmaster, special delivery	98
of sureties of postmasters	25
postmasters' salaries to be full compensation for	118
Restoration of clerk or carrier to former grade	147
Restrictions—	
on illustration, etc., in public printing	141
on portrait on postal currency	11
on printing books by Departments	141, 142
on printing on envelopes furnished by Departments	123
regarding franked matter	145
Retaliatory postage on certain foreign matter, when imposed	46
Retarding the passage of the mails, penalty	44
Return—	
of mail matter, directions	102
of mail matter to sender, addressed to lottery, etc., when	112
of matter seized or detained for violations	31
of money-order remittances to lotteries, etc., when	112
of part-paid official matter	96
penalty envelopes, used when	97
postal cards	86
registry receipt	35
request letters, not advertised	37
request on stamped envelopes	33
to Dead Letter Office, of undelivered mail	36
to sender, registered lottery letters, marked "fraudulent"	35
to writers, undelivered letters	36
Returned mail matter, prepayment of postage	130
Returns—	
of accounts, enforced by Postmaster-General	76
of marshal to Auditor, of proceedings on execution	4
of postmasters, false, penalty	79
delinquencies reported	66
Revenues—	
accounts of postal service to show sources	51
postal, penalty for failure to deposit	53
reported to Congress by Postmaster-General	146
Revision—	
of Auditor's certificates of balances	122
of classification of postal employees	90
of postal accounts after payment, forbidden	122
of printed proof sheets of postal conventions at Post-Office Department	13, 19
Revocation of contracts, carrying mail through foreign countries	45
Reward to postal employees forbidden	31
Right of action for breach of contract, reserved to United States	9
Risk of postmaster—	
deposits in national banks	60
salaries, full compensation	118

	Page.
Roads, land-grant, to carry mail, compensation.....	44
Roads to court-houses, etc., post-roads.....	39
Robbery of mail—	
accessory, penalty.....	60
penalty.....	58
penalty for attempt.....	58
Roots, seeds, plants, etc., rate of postage.....	104
Rosters of clerks, submitted to Postmaster-General.....	109
Route agent—	
embezzlement of mail matter, penalty.....	30
on cars.....	61
receipt and deposit of mail.....	41
Routes, railroad, to be classified.....	44
Royalty—	
double postal cards, forbidden.....	86
on letter-sheet envelopes, forbidden.....	86
Rules—	
governing per diem of inspectors.....	147
international money-order service.....	105
use of postal cards.....	33
Rural agents made inspectors.....	144
Rural carriers—	
annual leave of absence.....	147
carry merchandise for hire.....	140
leave of absence with pay.....	146
not to solicit business.....	140
salary.....	140, 147
Rural communities, experimental free delivery.....	117
Rural delivery division, superintendents made inspectors.....	144
Rural delivery service—	
acting or substitute carriers, pay.....	149
annual leave of carriers.....	146, 147
classification.....	137
pay of acting or substitute carriers.....	149
pay of carriers on vacation.....	146
salaries.....	147
substitutes for carriers on leave, pay.....	146, 147
Rural free delivery, experimental.....	117
Rural postal stations, provision for.....	138

S.

Safe-keeping of public money.....	27
Sailors' letters forwarded without postage prepaid.....	32, 36, 82
Sailors—	
not dismissed from postal service, when.....	75
preferred for appointment, when.....	11
Salaries and Allowances, superintendent.....	134
Salaries—	
Assistant Postmasters-General.....	76
assistant superintendents, Railway Mail Service.....	128, 135
at post-offices, deducted from postal receipts.....	27
chief clerks in charge of lines, Railway Mail Service.....	135
clerks in first-class post-offices.....	106
in second-class post-offices.....	108
division superintendents, Railway Mail Service.....	135
employees not efficient.....	111
employees of Post-Office Department.....	18
employees, Railway Mail Service.....	145
fourth-class postmasters.....	94
letter carriers.....	100
mail agents on ocean steamers.....	48
no person to receive double.....	7
not to be paid until after oath of office taken.....	62
officers in arrears.....	4
postal clerks.....	48, 150, 151

	Page.
Salaries—Continued.	
postmasters-----	92
increase-----	28
full compensation-----	118
post-office inspectors-----	137, 150
railway postal clerks-----	89
rural carriers-----	147
Salary and Allowance Division, expenses of assistant superintendents-----	135
Salary—	
Assistant Attorney-General-----	18
Assistant general superintendent, Railway Mail Service-----	135
chief clerk, Railway Mail Service-----	135
extra, forbidden-----	63
General superintendent, Railway Mail Service-----	135
Government employees-----	146
Postmaster-General-----	18
Postmaster, New York, N. Y.-----	66
Sale—	
of postage stamps and stamped envelopes-----	33
of post route maps-----	133
of stamps, stamped envelopes, etc., for cash only-----	80
of stamps with canceling marks removed, penalty-----	85
of useless Department property-----	19
of useless papers-----	106
Sample copies, second-class matter-----	97
"Sample copy," permissible on second-class matter-----	101
San Francisco, advertisement, ocean mail service-----	113
Savannah, advertisement, ocean mail service-----	113
"Sawdust swindle"-----	109
Scales, contracts signed by whom-----	77
Schedules—	
of arrival and departure of mails-----	26
of proposals-----	120
penalty for railroad failing to comply-----	145
Schemes to defraud—	
delivery of mail forbidden, when-----	112
nonmailable matter, penalty-----	70
payment of money orders forbidden, when-----	112
penalty-----	59, 60, 109
registered mail returned to sender-----	35
Scientific societies' publications, second-class matter-----	121
Scions, seeds, plants, etc., rate of postage-----	104
Scurrilous matter—	
not mailable, penalty-----	69, 70, 105
penalty for mailing or taking from mails to circulate-----	105
withdrawal from mails-----	105
Seal—	
affixed to postmasters' commissions-----	63
of Post-Office Department-----	19
Sealed matter not to be opened-----	105, 112
Seals, contracts signed by whom-----	77
Sea postal clerks, compensation and expenses-----	136
Search for mailable matter on foreign vessels-----	46
Search of vessels for letters, authorized when, etc-----	43
Searches, officers authorized to make-----	48
Second Assistant Postmaster-General—	
notify Auditor of mail contracts sublet-----	78
office-----	134, 143
sign certain contracts-----	77
when acting Postmaster-General-----	150
Second-class mail privilege annulled-----	137
Second-class matter—	
collection of postage-----	129
conditions for admission-----	83
defined-----	68, 82
entry by false evidence as to character-----	141

	Page.
Second-class matter—Continued.	
examined at mailing office.....	82
false evidence as to character of publication.....	103
foreign publications.....	83
improper additions.....	102
periodicals of State departments of agriculture.....	132
permissible additions.....	101
postage.....	97
prepaid postage.....	96
publications of fraternal societies, etc.....	120
of scientific societies, etc.....	121
rates of postage.....	85
on transient.....	96
supplements.....	83
Second-class postage accounted for.....	129
Second-class postmasters, compensation.....	71, 93
Second-class post-offices—	
classification and salaries of clerks.....	108
clerk hire, money-order, business.....	118
clerks promoted.....	109
Second-class vessels, ocean mail service.....	114
Secretaries to postmasters, salaries at first-class offices.....	106
Secretary of Agriculture, mail free reports, seeds, etc.....	67
Secretary of State—	
furnished copy of postal conventions.....	13, 19
to furnish Public Printer correct copy of postal conventions.....	13
Secretary of Treasury—	
annual estimates furnished to.....	133
designate time of opening proposals.....	120
direct revision of Auditor's certificates of postal balances.....	122
include annual estimates of Post-Office Department in regular printed estimates.....	22
Secreting mail matter, by postal employees, penalty.....	30, 31
Securing entry as second-class publications by false evidence.....	141
Securities of United States, penalty for placing advertisements on.....	12
Security—	
altering, forging, etc., to defraud United States, penalty.....	59
of letter mail endangered, remedy.....	65
of United States, advertisement in likeness of.....	12
on bonds of disbursing officers.....	8
on postmasters' bonds.....	24
Seeds, etc.—	
mailed free, by whom.....	67
postage.....	104
Seized matter returned to owner or sender.....	31
Seized packages containing letters, forfeited to United States.....	43
Seizures—	
for violating postal laws, protection to officers.....	43
of illegally carried mail matter.....	43
of mail matter on vessels by inspectors or special agents.....	43
Selling counterfeit stamps, etc., penalty.....	55
Senators not to receive compensation for services rendered in United States matters.....	10
Sender notified of nondelivery of mail matter.....	131
Sending obscene matter by common carrier.....	126
Sentence in prosecutions, fraudulent schemes, etc.....	110
Separate accounts of postal funds, kept by depositaries.....	6
Separate items in postal accounts, suspended.....	122
Separate money-order accounts kept by Auditor.....	17
Separating offices, allowances for clerk hire.....	68
Separators, etc.—	
salaries at first-class post-offices.....	108
at second-class post-offices.....	109
Service—	
in Department, number of hours required.....	129
on mail route under contract, extended.....	89

Service—Continued.	Page.
on post-routes, discontinued	40
required before leave of absence to clerks in post-offices	113
voluntary, forbidden	95
Services—	
except personal, advertising for contracts	63
in United States matters, penalty for officer receiving compensation for	10
not performed, payments recovered	54
of mail agents in foreign ports, paid	47
Set-off in settlement of claims against United States	68
Settled accounts of late postmasters, no demand to be made	14
Settlement of accounts—	
and claims	3
by Auditor, appeal	16
in Court of Claims	100
oaths, administered to witnesses	17
Settlement of expenses for Post-Office Department	76
Settlement of postal accounts by Auditor	65
Settlement with mail contractors by Auditor	78
Shanghai, China, postal agency and branches	48
Share of claim to officer for assistance rendered, forbidden	7
Ship letters—	
compensation for carriage	41
postage double	32
postal accounts to show expenditures	52
Shooting mail carrier's horse, penalty	58
Sick leave—	
not to affect regular leave of employees	131
of clerks	128
Sickness—	
of Postmaster-General, duties performed by whom	13
of postmaster, performance of duties	49
Signatures—	
of guarantors, genuine, on bid for carrying the mail	72
on money-orders, forging, etc., penalty	54, 55, 103
Signing—	
contracts, by whom	77
warrants, by clerks designated by Postmaster-General	147
Size of steamers, ocean mail service	113
Soldiers and sailors—	
not dismissed, when	75
preferred for appointment, when	11
Soldiers' letters transmitted unpaid	32, 36, 82
Soliciting—	
business by rural carriers, prohibited	140
contributions, forbidden, when	91
for gift to superior, forbidden	15
Solicitor of Treasury to order suit on bond of officers in arrears	4
Sources—	
of estimates to be specified	5
revenue, postal accounts to show	51
Special agents—	
designation changed	87
for Pacific coast	47
give bonds, when	8
of Post-Office Department authorized to search vessels, when	43
Special delivery—	
at other than free-delivery offices	138
business, compensation fixed by Postmaster-General, when	99
false returns, penalty	99
contracts made, when	99
letters, omission of postage not to delay transmission	105
matter, contracts for delivery	99
limit of delivery	98
postmaster responsible for immediate delivery	98

	Page.
Special delivery—Continued.	
matter, contracts for delivery—continued.	
record of articles received	98
use of ordinary stamps	149
messengers at free-delivery offices	99
compensation limited	98
deemed carriers	138
of mail matter	98
service, regulations	99
stamps authorized	98
Special forms for money orders	50
Special requisitions for printing	123
Special transfer service, East St. Louis, Ill., and St. Louis, Mo	131
Speed, conveyance of mails	61
Speedy execution of judgment in postal suits	23
Spurious coin schemes	109
“Spurious Treasury notes”	109
St. Louis, Mo.—	
advertisement, ocean mail service	113
special transfer service	131
St. Thomas, mail agency	47
Stamp clerks—	
salaries at first-class post-offices	107
at second-class post-offices	109
Stamp division, Superintendent	134
Stamped envelope paper, penalty for making	55
Stamped envelopes—	
claims of postmasters for loss	102
contracts	63
signed by whom	77
counterfeits	33
delivery by contractor	120
engraving thereon forbidden	33
failure to account for, penalty	53
for all Departments, contracts	123
furnished postmasters by whom	33
improvements	33
inclosing letters carried outside of mail	43
lithographing forbidden	33
not to contain printing	33
penalty for counterfeiting stamp	55
postal employees using previously used, penalty	34
previously used, penalty for using	34
provided by Postmaster-General	33
sold at cost	33, 71
for cash only	80
stamps to be defaced	33
to be sold at all post-offices	33
watermarks	33
withdrawal from mails during weighing period	145
Stamped paper, delivery by contractor	120
Stampers, etc.—	
salaries at first-class post-offices	108
at second-class post-offices	109
Stamps—	
for postage due	85
furnished postmasters by whom	33
impressed on newspaper envelopes	33
improvements, adopted by whom	33
postage, to be defaced	33
postmasters held accountable for	33
to keep records of	26
prepared by Postmaster-General	33
removed from mail matter by postal employees, penalty	34
removing canceling marks, penalty	85
required for special delivery of mail	149

	Page.
Stamps—Continued.	
sold at face value only	80
at all post-offices	33
unlawful use, penalty	85
used in payment of debts, penalty	80
Standard of efficiency, report to Congress	111
State courts try postal suits and prosecutions	24
State departments of agriculture, periodicals of, second-class matter	132
State officers, proceedings before, in cases of crime against United States	4
Statements—	
of expenditures from contingent fund	5
of postal receipts and expenditures, Auditor to transmit quarterly to Secretary of Treasury	65
unpaid money orders one year old	118
sworn, accompanying postmasters' quarterly accounts	26
Stating accounts, manner prescribed by Postmaster-General	76
Stating postal accounts, form reported by Auditor	66
Stationery—	
contracts not to exceed one year	12
signed by whom	77
included in annual estimates	23
postal accounts to show expenditures	52
Stations—	
establishment, limitations	125
salaries of superintendents, etc., at first-class post-offices	108
Stations of post-offices, issue of money orders	49
Stealing—	
mail, penalty	56
accessory to	4
mail bags, etc., penalty	58
mail keys, etc., penalty	58
newspapers, postal employees	57
United States property	67
Steamboats—	
carrying mail	40
letters on, delivery	40
Steamships—	
contracts for carrying mail	40
foreign mails transported	45
Stenographers, salaries at first-class post-offices	106
Stock, additional, employed in expediting the mail	38
Stock clerks, etc., salaries at first-class post-offices	108
Stolen property recovered, delivery to owner	54
Stolen United States property, penalty for receiving, etc	67
Stores to be searched, when, by whom	48
Street letter boxes—	
contracts signed by whom	77
established	28
Subcontract, carrying mail, copy filed	78
Subcontractors—	
carrying mail	88
paid by Auditor	78
liens upon pay	88
Subletting of mail contracts—	
for less than contract price	88
when authorized	78
Submitting false evidence to secure entry as second-class	103
Subordinates not to make presents to superiors	15
Substations, rural-delivery service	138
Substitute carriers—	
employed at expense of regular rural carriers	137
on rural-delivery routes	137
Substitute clerk or carrier, employment and payment	141
Substitutes—	
for absent clerks or carriers	148
for rural carriers on leave	146, 147

	Page.
Substitute letter carriers—	
appointment	89
city-delivery service	96
compensation	89
Subpœna for witnesses in claims against United States	16
Subsidy, additional, forbidden, ocean mail service	115
Successor of postmasters, appointment	25
Sufficiency of sureties, penalty for false certificate	64
Suits against—	
contractor or officer for delinquency, claims allowed in	4
delinquents, papers furnished Department of Justice	17
postmasters, limitations	25
Suits—	
for balances due to Post-Office Department, interest recovered	4
from postmasters, evidence	14
for delinquencies of postmasters or contractors, certified copies of accounts as evidence	14
for money due Department, under direction of Department of Justice returns of marshals to Auditor	17
for recovery of excess or fraudulent payments	54
Suits—	
on bond of officers in arrears	4
on judgment for amount due on accounts	101
on official bonds, limit of liability of sureties	104
Suits under postal laws—	
in name of United States	23
jurisdiction of circuit courts	6
district courts	6
tried in State courts	24
Sums advanced to inspectors and others	53
Sundays—	
not counted in leave of absence of clerks, etc	131
not included in leave of absence of clerks in post-offices	148
Superintendent—	
Division of city delivery	143
foreign mails	143
railway adjustment	143
salaries and allowances	143
of buildings, Post-Office Department	133
of free delivery, designation and salary	60
of money-order system, to issue money orders, when	131
postal finance, bond	133
Superintendents—	
assistant, free delivery, per diem	131
as special agents (inspectors)	47
of delivery, salaries at first-class post-offices	107
of divisions, rural delivery, made inspectors	144
of mails, salaries at first-class post-offices	107
money-order division, salaries at first-class post-offices	107
of registry, salaries at first-class post-offices	107
of stations, salaries at first-class post-offices	108
Railway Mail Service, salaries	145
Supervision of Department and postal service	76
Supplements, second-class matter	83
Supplies—	
advertisement and proposals	120
advertising for	63
contracts not to exceed one year	12
delivery by contractors	120
free-delivery service contracts	109
postmasters to keep records	26
Superintendent of	134
withdrawal from mails	145
Supply clerks, salaries at first-class post-offices	108
Supplying mail at county seats	39
Supreme court, appeal to, in action for settlement of accounts	101

	Page.
Sureties—	
bond of bidder for carrying mail	64
insufficient, penalty for unlawful approval of bidder's bond	64
liable for subletting mail contract	78
liability on failure of postmaster to render quarterly report	27
on official bonds	124
limit of liability	104
not liable for postmasters' debts, when	25
notified of postmaster's deficiencies	81
of defaulting officer, when attachment may issue against	10
of postmaster, accountable for money-order funds	49
on bond of bidder for carrying mail, justification	73
of officers in arrears	4
on mail contracts, release, etc	38, 86
on postmasters' bonds, liability	25
release	142
penalty for false certificate	64
release, contract for carrying mail	86
from postmasters' bonds	25
Suretyship, release from	142
Surplus fund, unexpended balances carried to	15
Surplus money-order funds, remittances	62
Surplus revenues and other money deposits by postmasters	27
Suspension—	
of second-class mail privileges	137
of separate items in postal accounts	122
Sworn accounts of postmasters	26
Sworn statements—	
accompanying postmasters' quarterly accounts	26, 79
of advertising rates	80
System—	
of exchange, international money-order service	49, 105
of registration, establishment	34
T.	
Tacoma, advertisement, ocean mail service	113
Taking fraudulent matter from the mails, penalty	60
Taking from post-office letters bearing fictitious addresses in unlawful business	110
Tearing mail bags, etc., penalty	58
Telegrams, Government business, priority on certain lines	60
Telegraph companies to file written acceptance with Postmaster-General	12
Telegraph rates, fixed by Postmaster-General	60
Temporary contracts for carrying mail, when made, limit	74
Temporary employees, compensation	149
Temporary mails to offices not on established routes	40
Temporary service—	
carrying mail	116
cost charged to contractor	90
failure of contractor	90
letter carriers, clerks, etc	149
Termination of contract, carrying foreign mails	45
Termination of post-office leases	97
Term of office—	
Assistant Postmasters-General	76
Postmaster-General	18
Terminus, mail route, change	40
Third Assistant Postmaster-General, acting Postmaster-General, when	150
Third Assistant Postmaster-General, chief clerk	144
Third Assistant Postmaster-General, office	134, 144
Third Assistant Postmaster-General, sign certain contracts	77
Third-class matter—	
defined	68, 69, 83
improper additions	102
letters in point print or raised characters used by blind	132

	Page.
Third-class matter—Continued.	
permissible additions	102
prepayment of postage	76
rate of postage	32
Third-class postmasters, compensation	71, 93
Third-class post-offices—	
allowances, clerk hire	68
rent, light, and fuel	149
Third-class vessels, ocean mail service	114
Threatening mail carrier, penalty	58
Threatening matter, nonmailable and withdrawn from mails	105
Time for closing mails	26
Time of depositaries' reports of postal funds, prescribed by Postmaster-General	6
Time of opening proposals, designated by Secretary of Treasury	120
Time on duty required of auxiliary employees in post-offices	148
Timekeepers, etc., salaries at first-class post-offices	108
Title, assumed, etc., unlawful business	110
Topographer, salary, etc.	18, 133, 144
Trades union publications, second-class matter	121
Trains to carry mails	82
Transcript money-order account books, evidence on trial for embezzlement	61
Transfer—	
clerks and carriers	148
contract, causes its annulment	9
funds to disbursing officer	75
mail contracts, authorized when	78
by contractor, prohibited	39
money-order funds	50
money orders	65
order under contract, cause its annulment	9
postal clerks, preference	145
postal funds by Postmaster-General, when	23
public money ordered by Postmaster-General	27
public moneys, penalty for improper	11
Transferring foreign mail, expenses at New York	127
Transfer service at St. Louis, Mo., and East St. Louis, Ill.	131
Transfers by warrant from postal revenues to money-order account	51
Transient copies, Congressional Record, postage	65
Transmission—	
books for blind, requirements	141
foreign publications	83
letters by private express forbidden	42
letters in stamped envelopes outside the mail	43
letters, relating to cargo	42
letters without compensation	43
mail matter, directions for	102
official mail, free of postage	77
postal cards, rate, etc.	33, 82
postal supplies by freight or express	145
special-delivery letters, not delayed by omission of postage	105
unpaid letters, of soldiers, etc.	82
Transmitted free, census mail matter	132
Transmitting forged, etc., bonds, etc., to defraud United States, penalty	59
Transportation free for railway postal clerks	125, 127
Transportation of domestic mails through foreign countries	44
Transportation, official matter by express, except	116
Transportation of foreign mail	45
compensation	45
discontinuance of contracts	45
through United States, privilege withdrawn	46
Transportation of mails—	
accounts audited	121
compensation to land-grant roads	71
compensation to railroads readjusted	61
reduced	70, 80

	Page.
Transportation of mails—Continued.	
contracts, signed by whom, etc.....	77, 116
cost ascertained.....	82
electric and cable cars, compensation.....	127, 150
included in annual estimates.....	23
mail agents in foreign ports, paid from appropriation.....	47
mail agents on ocean steamers, paid from appropriation.....	48
on any train.....	44
on fastest trains.....	96
on Pacific railroads, compensation.....	9
other means than railroads.....	44
to and from post-offices, contracts.....	40
to foreign countries, rate of postage.....	32
transfer of contract prohibited.....	39
penalty for failure to execute contract.....	73
persons employed, exempted from militia duty.....	3
postal accounts to show expenditures.....	52
postal clerks paid from appropriation.....	48
proceedings on failure of bidder or contractor.....	72
railroad routes, adjustment.....	148
Transportation of persons unlawfully conveying mail forbidden.....	41
Transportation of postal clerk, ocean mail service.....	115
Transportation of publications as second class, admitted on false evidence.....	141
Transportation of sea postal clerks.....	136
Transportation through United States of mails of adjoining countries.....	45
Transporting mails between United States and foreign countries.....	45
Traveling expenses—	
assistant superintendent, Railway Mail Service.....	128
General Superintendent, Railway Mail Service.....	88
officers of Railway Mail Service.....	111
postal clerks and others.....	116
post-office inspectors.....	87, 146
special agents.....	47
Treasurer of United States, disbursing officers to deposit funds with.....	75
Treasury Department to settle claims and accounts of the United States.....	3
Treatment of fictitious matter.....	110
Treatment of foreign dead mail matter.....	20
Treatment of unmailable matter at office of address.....	84
Treatment on arrival of mail carried on foreign vessels.....	47
Trial of accessory, embezzlement of United States property.....	67
True date affixed to all papers, etc.....	20
Trusts or fraudulent conveyances set aside, when.....	17
Twine, postal accounts to show expenditures.....	52
Two offices, holding, forbidden, except.....	121

U.

Unauthorized bank, deposit of public money by postmasters, forbidden.....	27
Unauthorized deposit of public moneys, penalty for making or receiving.....	6, 11
Unavailable appropriations, claims, considered.....	79
Unclaimed money in dead letters, disposition.....	52
Unclaimed printed matter in post-offices, regulations for disposal.....	54
Undelivered letters, detention and return to Dead Letter Office.....	36
Undelivered mail matter.....	139
Underpaid official matter, delivered free, except.....	96
Unexpended balances of appropriations, carried to surplus fund.....	15, 63
Uniform canceling ink.....	80
Uniforms—	
letter carriers.....	28
postal clerks.....	81
United States—	
annual contract, if assigned.....	9
contracts for carrying mail in name of.....	37
currency for redemption, registered free.....	36
pay costs of proceedings in State courts for crimes against the United States.....	4
right of action for breach of contract.....	9
suits under postal laws, brought in name of.....	23

	Page.
"United States goods"-----	109
"United States mail," printed on vessels, vehicles, etc.-----	41
United States officers, false personation-----	95
United States marshal, reports in postal suits-----	23
Unlawful approval, by postmaster, of bond or certificate of bidder for carrying mail-----	64
Unlawful business, use of fictitious names-----	110
Unlawful deposits, acceptance by banks-----	11
Unlawful detention of mail by postmasters, penalty-----	30
Unlawful inclosures of higher class in lower class-----	102
Unlawful increase in weight of mail-----	130
Unlawful issue of money orders-----	103
Unlawful possession of embezzled property, penalty-----	67
Unlawful possession of mail lock or key, penalty-----	59
Unlawful postage, receipt forbidden-----	31
Unlawful publication that vessel is used in transporting mail, penalty-----	41
Unlawful removal of stamps from mail matter by postal employees, penalty-----	34
Unlawful use of franking privilege-----	77
Unlawful use of penalty envelopes-----	78
Unlawful use of "U. S. Mail" on vehicles, etc-----	41
Unmailable matter—	
delivery-----	84
held for instructions-----	84
lottery, gift concert, etc-----	111
Unpaid letters sent to Dead Letter Office-----	36
Unpaid money orders—	
money represented, disposition-----	118
monthly statements-----	118
Unpaid portion of judgments due Post-Office Department, compromise-----	17
Unpaid postage on foreign mails, collection-----	32
Unsatisfactory service of carrier or clerk-----	148
Unsettled accounts, suits in Court of Claims-----	101
Unusual business in post-offices, clerk hire-----	28
Use of fictitious names, unlawful business-----	110
Use of official or penalty envelopes-----	77
Use of official seal-----	19
Use of ordinary stamps for special delivery mail-----	149
Use of postage stamps previously used, penalty-----	34
Use of private express for carrying mail matter forbidden-----	41
Use of public moneys, penalty for improper-----	11, 27
Use of registry receipt as evidence-----	35
Useless department property, sale-----	19
Useless papers, report to Congress-----	106
Using forged, etc., foreign postage stamps, penalty-----	55
Using forged stamps, etc., penalty-----	55
Using public moneys, penalty-----	6
Uttering forged bonds, etc., to defraud United States, penalty-----	59
Uttering forged foreign postage stamps, penalty-----	55
Uttering forged or altered money order-----	103

V.

Vacancy in office of postmaster-----	25
Vacation with pay—	
postal clerks-----	136
rural letter carriers-----	146
Validity of claims under exhausted appropriations-----	79
Validity of money orders-----	50, 119
Valuable articles stolen from mails, penalty for receiving-----	57
Valuable contents, dead letters, disposal-----	37
Valuable inclosures in dead letters, disposition-----	36
Valuable inclosures, penalty for embzzlement by postal employees of mail containing-----	56
Value of old files-----	106, 143
Variations in annual estimates to be explained-----	8
Vehicles to be searched, when, by whom-----	48
Vehicles transporting mail, display of weather signals-----	124

	Page.
Venue, prosecutions for mailing lottery matter.....	111
Vessels carrying mail.....	40
Vessels for ocean mail service, requirements.....	114
Vessels not to make entry until letters are delivered at post-office.....	42
Vessels searched by Inspectors or special agents.....	43
Vessels to carry mail received from post-office only.....	42
Violations, postal laws—	
disposition of fines, penalties, etc.....	54
prosecutions in State courts.....	24
Violent entry of railway post-office punishable.....	138
Void contract, carrying mail.....	88
Voluntary service not accepted, unless.....	95, 142
Volunteers on mail vessels, ocean mail service.....	115
Vouchers—	
credits claimed in suits against delinquent officers.....	4
duplicate receipt for deposit of postal revenues.....	117
expenditures by postmasters, submitted to Auditor.....	28
penalty for filing false.....	7
with postal accounts, Auditor to receive.....	65

W.

Waiver of identification on money orders forbidden.....	131
Want of evidence, grounds for continuance in postal suit, when.....	4
Warrant of attachment—	
application made, to whom and by whom.....	11
when issued in postal suits.....	10
Warrants—	
bringing postal deposits into Treasury.....	20
charging postmasters' payments.....	20
clerk authorized to sign.....	147
countersigned, etc., by Auditor.....	66
covering money into Treasury, Postmaster-General to issue.....	76
officer designated to sign.....	116
payment of lost invalid money orders.....	119
payment of postal balances, when issued.....	122
payments on postal service account.....	24
transfer of funds to disbursing officers.....	75
transfer of postal revenues to money-order account.....	51
used to pay invalid money orders.....	118
Washington, D. C., salary of superintendent of registry.....	107
Waste paper—	
certificates of oaths of mail carriers.....	120
failure to deposit revenues from sale.....	53
old files of useless papers.....	106
old files in post-offices disposed of as.....	143
old reports of arrival and departure of mails.....	130
rejected proposals for carrying mail.....	130
Waste paper and material, receipts from sale deposited as part of postal revenues.....	52
Waste-paper examiners, etc., salaries at first-class post-offices.....	108
Watchmen, etc.—	
salaries at first-class post-offices.....	108
salaries at second-class post-offices.....	109
Watermarks on stamped envelopes.....	33
Water routes, domestic, new and old service, contracts.....	79
Waters of United States post routes.....	39
Wearing unlawfully, letter carriers' uniforms, penalty.....	28
Weather signals displayed on vehicles, etc., carrying mail.....	124
Weighers of second-class mail, etc., salaries at first-class post-offices.....	108
Weighing mails, how and when.....	66
Weighing mails on railroads, reports, how stated and verified.....	61
Weighing period, penalty for padding mails.....	130
Weighing season, withdrawal of supplies.....	145
Weight and rate of postage on newspapers.....	76
Weight limit on third-class mail matter.....	69

	Page.
Weight of mail matter, limit.....	125
Weight of mails—	
stated to Postmaster-General.....	66
unlawfully increased, penalty.....	130
Weight of packages, limit, exception.....	66
Who may use official or penalty envelopes.....	77
Widows and orphans of soldiers and sailors, not dismissed, when.....	75
Withdrawal of postal cards during weighing season.....	145
Withdrawal of proposals for carrying mail.....	37
Withholding of pay—	
mail contractors for failure.....	89
railroads, when.....	62
Witnesses in claims against the United States.....	16
Witnesses in investigations, oaths.....	14
Wrapping—	
mail matter.....	29
newspapers for mailing.....	30
packages.....	84
Wrapping paper—	
contracts signed by whom.....	77
included in annual estimates.....	23
postal accounts to show expenditures.....	52
Writers, undelivered letters returned to.....	36
Writing, etc., on newspapers, what permissible.....	69
Writing inclosed in lower-class matter, penalty.....	30, 102
Writing on second-class matter, what permissible.....	101
Writing on third-class matter.....	102
Writing, what permissible, on fourth-class matter.....	102
Written acceptance to be filed by telegraph companies.....	12
Written addresses on postal cards.....	71
Written authority for publishing proposals, etc.....	15
Written list of nondelivered letters, posted in public view.....	35
Written matter, first class.....	82
Written order—	
expenditures from contingent fund.....	6
waiving allotments of appropriations.....	142
Wrongful use of public money, penalty.....	81
Wrong payments, suit for recovery.....	54

Y.

Yokohama, Japan, postal agency and branches.....	48
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